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# MAGNITUDE DETERMINATION AT REGIONAL AND NEAR-REGIONAL DISTANCES IN THE UNITED STATES UNCLASSIFIED VERSION

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MAJOR GENERAL J. F. RODENHAUSER, CHIEF

# MAGNITUDE DETERMINATION AT REGIONAL AND NEAR-REGIONAL DISTANCES IN THE UNITED STATES

AFTAC/VELA SEISMOLOGICAL CENTER
TECHNICAL REPORT VU-65-4A
PROJECT VELA-UNIFORM

30 August 1965

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# NOTICE

This report is the unclassified version of Technical Report VU-65-4. All figures and discussions revealing classified data on weapons tests at the Nevada Test Site have been deleted. Such data in no way influences the seismological conclusions of this report.

## ABSTRACT

- l. This report deals with the problems of variation of  $P_n$  amplitudes in the regional and near-regional distance ranges (200-2100 kilo-meters). The data used were recorded by Long Range Seismic Measurement (LRSM) vans of the VELA Seismological Center as a result of earthquakes throughout the United States and numerous nuclear and chemical explosions in the same region.
- 2. It is shown that the patterns of  $P_{\rm R}$  amplitudes versus  $\Delta$  in Western and Eastern United States (WUS and EUS) are markedly different and that these differences are related to different velocity structures in the two regions. These differences extend to at least 150 kilometers depth.
- 3. Neither the WUS nor EUS patterns conform even approximately to that predicted or suggested by Gutenberg and Richter in the 1000-2000 kilometer range. The hypothesized shadow-zone does not exist and overestimation of magnitude by as much as 1.5 magnitude units is frequently done because of failure to properly understand the patterns of radiation.
- 4. By proper calibration of WUS by use of numerous events, it is now possible to get consistent estimates of magnitude at all distance ranges for most explosions and earthquakes. This is very important when body wave magnitudes are used as an essential element in an identification criterion.
- 5. Obtaining consistent estimates of amplitude as a function of distance for a particular event requires a knowledge of the energy distribution between the several refracted phases used between 200 and 2500 kilometers distance. Data on hand show that the energy partition function is reasonably uniform throughout the regions investigated but that locally it may vary radically, resulting in a ten-fold change in relative excitation of two refracted phases.
- 6. Patterns of energy radiation, such as those for EUS and WUS, are probably approximately determinable from knowledge of velocity structure and vice versa but are not determinable from earthquake investigations. They are only determinable from explosion data where origin time and focus are accurately known.

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# LONG RANGE SEISMIC MEASUREMENT VAN LOCATION DESIGNATORS

```
APUN
        Apache, Oklahoma
ARWS
         Aurora, Wisconsin
A:N
        Austin, Nevada
AYSD
        Academy, South Dakota
        Amarillo, Texas
AZTX
BLWV
        Beckley, West Virginia
BMSO
         Blue Mountains Seismological Observatory
        Balmorhea, Texas
BMIX
BRPA
        Berlin, Pennsylvania
bXor
         blanding, Utah
CK5C
        Cache Creek, British Columbia
CPCL
        Campo, California
CPSO
        Cumberland Plateau Seismological Observatory
CTOK
        Clayton, Oklahoma
CVTN
        Centerville, Tennessee
DHNY
        Delhi, New York
DRCO
        Durango, Colorado
DLOK
        Durant, Oklahoma
EBMI'
        East Braintree, Manitoba
EFTX
        Eagle flat, Texas
EPTX
        El Paso, Texas
EUAL
        Eutaw, Alabama
FMLT
        Fillmore, Utah
FRMA
        Forsyth, Mortana
I'SAZ
        Flagstaff, Arizona
CIMA
        Clendive, Montana
CNAM
        Chome, New Mexico
COMN
        Crand kapids, Minnesota
CVTX
        Grapevine, Texas
HBOK
        Hobart, Oklahoma
HDTA
        howard, Pennsylvania
hETX
        Hempstead, Texas
Hir:ND
        Hannah, North Dakota
hL 10
        Hailey, Idaho
HMFC:
        100 Mile House, British Columbia
HTMN
        Hastings, Minnesota
I MA
        l:ysham, Montana
JELA
        Jena, Louisiana
JUIX
        juno, Texas
KNUT
        Kanab, Utah
LCNM
        Las Cruces, New Mexico
LPTX
        La Pryor, Texas
```

LSNH

Lisbon, New Hampshire

Mogollon, New Mexico MLNM MMIN McMinnville, Tennessee MNNV Mina, Nevada MFAR Mountain Pine, Arkansas Mount Baker, Washington MIWA Marysville, California MVCL NUWS Niagara, Wisconsin PMWY Pole Mountain, Wyoming **PTOR** Pendleton, Oregon PIJOK Perkins, Oklahoma Red Lake, Ontario KKON RINM Raton, New Mexico Ryder, North Dakota RIND SEMN Sleepy Eye, Minnesota STAZ Snowflake, Arizona SIIX San Jose, Texas SKTX Shamrock, Texas Sanderson, Texas SSIX Springerville, Arizona SVAZ 1 DNM Tres Piedras, New Mexico 1FCL Tait, California TISO Tonto Forest Seismological Observatory TKWA Tonasket, Washington UBSO ainta Basin Seismological Observatory VNUT Vernal, l'tah **VTOR** Venator, Oregon WIN Winnemucca, Nevada WMAZ Williams, Arizona WMSO Wichita Mountains Seismological Observatory WNSD Winner, South Dakota

### INTRODUCTION

- 1. Little advance has occurred in our understanding of so-called magnitude values computed at regional or near-regional distances by use of body waves since the work of Richter and Gutenberg (VESIAC Report 4410-71-X, Proceedings of the VESIAC Conference on Seismic Event Magnitude Determination, May 1964). Work done by Romney some time ago and described in detail in this report constitutes one of the few exceptions to this generalization. Seismologists have tended to simply adopt the curves given by Richter, extend them by arbitrary assumptions, or to ignore the whole matter. The most cursory glance at available Amplitude/Period (A/T) versus Epicentral Distance ( $\Delta$ ) data impresses one with the profound control exerted on such data by regional crustal characteristics. Imposition of a "standard" A/T versus A curve on data for events east of the Rocky Mountains, hereafter reterred to as Eastern United States (EUS), with the associated plotting of magnitude (m) versus A rather than A/T versus A obscured the simple A/T versus A relationship of that region. Even in the Western United States (WUS) the standardized approach to magnitude computations as exemplified by VELA reports dealing with individual Nevada Test Site (NTS) events (so-called "shot reports") effectively obscured significant aspects of travel-time and amplitude data as well as evidence for the vertical velocity structure in the crust and upper mantle. The whole concept of the "crust" of the earth as defined by seismic velocity data may require revision based on data obtained by the VELA program. This report attempts to advance understanding of the problems associated with magnitude determinations at regional and near-regional distances. Corollary problems that became evident during the analysis will be discussed at the appropriate places.
- 2. Both short and long period amplitude measurements of high quality for both carthquakes and explosions are now available as a result of the ARPA/AFTAC program. They show that the A/T versus \( \lambda \) relationship in the range 200-2100 kilometers for the first P phase as published in tabulated form in the VELA shot reports represents a comparatively crude attempt to express the observed pattern of variation of P amplitudes with distance. That curve bears no relation to patterns of P energy resulting from events in the EUS. The supposed profound decrease and subsequent increase of amplitude in the neighborhood of 1000 kilometers epicentral distance (the "observational" basis for the "Shadow Zone") in the WUS has little basis in fact. The misconception

arose by unknowingly attempting to analyze the A/T versus A data for three independently propagating refracted phases by one curve. It will be shown that magnitudes computed according to the formula appropriate to each phase largely remove the apparently profound dependence of determined magnitude upon distance of observation. Systematic variations of 1.9 magnitude units occur when using the shot report A/T versus \( \Delta\) table at regional and near-regional distances (for example, see Figures 8, 9, 10, 58, 60, 62, and all plots of data from earthquakes). Such overestimation of magnitude becomes a matter of concern to bomb detection and identification studies as some proposed identification criteria demand a valid and meaningful ordering of seismic events on a body wave magnitude basis. For example, miscalculation of the magnitude of events can effectively garble such a criterion as AR versus body wave magnitude. Most of this report deals with the clarification of the problem of understanding the variation of P amplitudes as a function of distance in the regional and near-regional distance ranges (150-2100 kilometers).

The data of this study refute widely held ideas about the functional relationship between amplitudes of P phases and epicentral distance. In so doing, the data clearly show that some current ideas about the proper placement of seismometers for optimum detection capability are grossly misleading for the WUS and are untrue for the EUS and, by extension, for much of the world. The WUS represents only one of many possible areas in terms of velocity structure and, unfortunately, most studies of amplitude as a function of distance have treated WUS events. Misinterpretation of the data resulted in invalid conclusions for even that region. We will demonstrate the complete irrelevancy of the currently accepted A/T versus A assumptions to conditions in EUS though many seismologists assume these assumptions to be valid. No shadow zone exists in EUS and amplitudes of the Pg 5 phase increase continuously from teleseismic distances to the epicenter (that is, to the inner limit of existence of the phase at a hundred or so kilometers). A 10-fold increase in signal-to-noise ratio, relative to that at an epicentral distance of 65°, can be obtained by observing  $P_{10.5}$  at  $20^{\circ}$  or  $P_{8.5}$  at  $11^{\circ}$ .

Brune, J. A. Espinosa, J. Oliver, 1963, Relative Excitation of Surface Waves by Earthquakes and Underground Explosions in the California-Nevada Region, J. G. R., Vol 68, pp. 3501-3513.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Mansfield, R. H., Measurements of Pg/Pn, Lg/Pg, and AR for Nuclear Explosions and Earthquakes, VSC Technical Report VU-64-1.

- 4. The observed travel-time complications in WUS at distances of less than 2000 kilometers are largely nonexistent for many other areas, the general belief in the universality of such complications results from confusing the problem of multiple refractors with that of regional variations of refraction velocities. Possibly, highly seismic regions have, as a corollary feature, complex velocity structures.
- 5. This report purports to demonstrate the general statements made above and to present the quantitative relationships between amplitude, distance, and phase for EUS and WUS. We will consider initially EUS because of its remarkable simplicity and will then attempt to explain the major problems inherent in understanding amplitude relationships in the P phases arising from WUS events. Any careful attempt to develop a meaningful A/T versus  $\Delta$  relationship requires the identification of phases, the determination of their distance dependence, and their average energy content relative to other phases.
- 6 Magnitude has varied definitions with none universally accepted. Since the important points to consider include relative ordering of events and establishment of their relative magnitude, we can accept any reasonably meaningful point of departure for our definition. The definition of the magnitude we accept is as it is defined by several observations at 20-30°, according to Richter's published curve for P body waves. Formulas derived herein yield a uniform estimate of the magnitude by use of data obtained between 200 kilometers and teleseismic distances. We can then use those formulas to determine a meaningful estimate of relative magnitude of events over any distance range.
- 7. The subscript nomenclature used to characterize particular phases should not be taken too literally. A subscript of (7.9) means that we attempt to treat under one phase and equation profiles with observed velocities in the range (7.7-7.9). The (8.5) subscript should be considered as indication of velocities in the range (8.3-8.7) while (8.1) covers (8.0-8.1) in WUS. The  $P_{10.5}$  subscript identifies the first segment of the travel-time curve observed beyond  $P_{8.5}$ . These phases are distinct and are associated with distinct refractors.

## EASTERN UNITED STATES

1. Travel-fime Curves for EUS. The standard ( $\Gamma = \Delta/8.1$  versus  $\Delta$ ) figures of the shot reports show clearly the essential character of Pn traveltime curves for EUS (Figures 2 through 7). The Jeffreys-Bullen (J-B) travel-time curve is included in all figures. Figures 2 through 7 give

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>See, for example, Richter, C. F., 1958, Elementary Seismology, Freeman and Company, San Francisco, p. 688.

the first arrival data observed for the indicated events, numerous figures being presented in order to make it clear that this pattern of travel-time profile typifies epicenters throughout EUS. Figure 1 indicates the epicenters of these events and all others considered in this report. that the events of EUS are distributed from Eastern New Mexico to the Western Atlantic Ocean and from the South Dakota-Nebraska Border to the Louisiana Gulf Coast. Clearly, the simple profile of a Pn leg of approximately 8.5 velocity extending from around 150 to about 2100 kilometers typifies the region. At that distance, a deeper refraction becomes first arrival, travel times then following the J-B curve with regional characteristics no longer playing a significant role. A comparison of this travel time curve pattern with the incomplete pattern of curves of WUS presented in Figure 23 indicates the gross contrast of velocity structures of the two areas. More discussion of this point will follow a discussion of the WUS profile. For the moment, we note only the existence of the contrast with its implications of different patterns of amplitudes as a function of distance from epicenters in the two areas.

# 2. Argnitudes as computed by the Shot Report Table for EUS Events.

The half circles on Figures 8 through 16 indicate magnitude values ( $m_{ST}$ ) based upon the standard shot report A/T versus  $\Delta$  table in the range of 2100 kilometers. Clearly, the magnitude estimates are a function of distance and thus unsatisfactory in estimating the magnitude of EUS events. Not surprisingly, a generalized A/T versus  $\Delta$  curve attempting to express the complexities of WUS velocity structures fails completely when applied to EUS, a simple region displaying essential phase continuity over the entire interval, 150-2100 kilometers.

# It is providence of A/f on $\alpha$ and the Computation of Magnitude for EUS Events.

a. It is assumed that the relationship between m, A/T, and  $\Delta$  is of the term

$$m = a + \log (A/T) + n \log \Lambda$$
 (1)

where m is magnitude, a and n are constants to be determined, A/T is measured in millem crons per second, and  $\Delta$ , the epicentral distance, is measured in kilometers. The equation can be rewritten as  $C = m + a = \log (A/T) + n \log \Delta$ , the correct value of n being that for which ( is independent of  $\Delta$ ). After n is determined, a is evaluated by use of the megnetude value determined at teleseismic distances (beyond the  $P_{8,5}$  leg of traveletime curve or, in this case, beyond 2100 kilometers).

b. An estimate of n can be obtained by determining a least square fit of log A/T versus n log  $\Delta$  data for events occurring in EUS. The six events

selected and the computed values of n with their standard deviations are:

|  | n                   |
|--|---------------------|
| West Virginia Earthquakes (25 Nov 1964)  | $-1.84 \pm 0.23$    |
| Texas-Louisiana Earthquake (24 Apr 1964) | -2.26 <u>+</u> 0.33 |
| GNOME - Eastern Profile                  | $-2.07 \pm 0.39$    |
| SALMON                                   | $-2.37 \pm 0.34$    |
| SS Village                               | $-1.56 \pm 0.36$    |
| Poplar Bluff Earthquake (3 Mar 1963)     | -1.88 <u>+</u> 0.54 |
| Average                                  | -2.0                |

As examples of the influence of the value of n on data interpretation, a detailed presentation of the data for the first two events above is given in Table I. Note that, according to VELA custom, all standard deviations indicated are standard deviations of a single determination. Standard deviations of the mean are generally one-third to one-quarter of the standard deviation of a single determination.

TABLE I

| West Virginia Earthquake 25 Nov 64 02:50:07.1 m = 3.58 ± 0.20 |           |             |          |         |                    |                    |        |      |         |
|---|-----------|-------------|----------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|------|---------|
| Station   | Δ<br>(km) | A/T<br>m⊬/s | log<br>△ | log A/T | log A/T<br>+ log ∆ | log A/7<br>+ 2 log | _      | A 7  | m<br>sr |
| BRPA  | 377       | 51.8        | 2.576    | 1.714   | 4.290              | 6.866              | 9.442  | 3.60 | 4.61    |
| CPSO  | 403       | 55.6        | 2.605    | 1.745   | 4.350              | 6.955              | 9.560  | 3.69 | 4.75    |
| HDP A   | 537       | 14.5        | 2.730    | .161    | 3.891              | 6.621              | 9.351  | 3.35 | 4.64    |
| DHNY  | 795       | 19.7        | 2.900    | 1.294   | 4.194              | 7.094              | 9.994  | 3.82 | 5.09    |
| LSNH  | 1122      | 3.26        | 3.050    | 0.513   | 3.563              | 6.613              | 9.663  | 3.34 | 4.81    |
| GPMN  | 1507      | 2.93        | 3.178    | 0.467   | 3.645              | 6.823              | 10.001 | 3.55 | 4.27    |
| WMSO  | 1556      | 4.36        | 3,192    | 0.639   | 3.831              | 7.023              | 10.215 | 3.75 | 4.24    |
| RKON  | 1784      | 2.87        | 3.251    | 0.458   | 3.719              | 6.970              | 10.221 | 3.70 | 3.36    |
| RTNM  | 2022      | 2.79        | 3.306    | 0.433   | 3.739              | 7.045              | 10.351 | 3.78 | 3.35    |
|   |           |             |          |         |                    | 6.890              |        | 3.62 |         |

C = 6.890 = 3.58 - a, a = -3.31

| Texas-Louisiana Earthquake | 24 Apr 1964 | 07:33:53.5 m <sub>ts</sub> | $-3.85 \pm 0.34$ |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|------------------|
|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|------------------|

| Station     | Δ<br>(km) | A/T    | log ∆    | log A/T      | log A/T + log Δ | $log A/T$ + 2 $log \Delta$ | log A/T<br>+ 3 log | 0      | msr  |
|-------------|-----------|--------|----------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------|------|
|             |           | /0>    |          | <b>5</b> (00 | 4 000           | 3 150                      | 0 200              | 2.00   | / 90 |
| JELA        | i 10      | 492.2  | 2 . 2 30 | 2.692        | 4.922           | 7.152                      | 9.382              | 3.88   | 4.89 |
| GVTX        | 333       | 374.0  | 2.522    | 2.573        | 5.095           | 7.617                      | 10.139             | 4.34   | 5.27 |
| <b>WMSO</b> | 565       | 14.1   | 2.752    | 1.149        | 3.901           | 6.653                      | 9.405              | 3.38   | 4.55 |
| EUAL        | 574       | 40.5   | 2.759    | 1.607        | 4.366           | 7.125                      | 9.884              | 3.86   | 5.01 |
| JUTX        | 715       | 52.0   | 2.854    | 1.716        | 4.570           | 7.424                      | 10.278             | 4.15   | 5.41 |
| CPSO        | 883       | 23.8   | 2.946    | 1.377        | 4.323           | 7.269                      | 9.466              | 4.00   | 5.38 |
| RTNM        | 1127      | (2.04) | 3.052    | 0.310        | 3.362           | 6.414                      | 9.980              | (3.14) | 4.61 |
| LCNM        | 1212      | 5.35   | 3.084    | 0.728        | 3.812           | 6.896                      | 10.249             | 3.63   | 4.93 |
| BLWV        | 1333      | 7,49   | 3.125    | 0.874        | 3,999           | 7.124                      | 10,237             | 3.85   | 4.98 |
| BRPA        | 1634      | 3.96   | 3.213    | 0.598        | 3.811           | 7.024                      |                    | 3.75   | 4.00 |
|             |           |        |          |              | _               | 7.070                      |                    | 3.80   |      |

C = 7.070 = 3.85 - a, a = -3.22

c. Columns 6, 7, and 8 give values of C for n = 1, 2, and 3, respectively. The values of Column 7 (n = 2) appear independent of  $\Delta$  while those of Columns 6 and 8 (n = 1 and n = 3) show a dependence of C upon  $\Delta$ . The values of "a" follow immediately (-3.31 and -3.22), their average value of -3.27 being adopted. Finally, the formula desired reads

$$m_{eus} = m_{8.5} = -3.27 + \log A/T + 2 \log \Delta$$
. (2)

This equation is shown graphically in Figure 100 as the  $P_{8,5}$  curves, A/T being measured in millimicrons per second and  $\Delta$  in kilometers. Column 9 gives the magnitude computed according to this formula as a function of distance. Compare these values with those of Column 10 which were computed according to the shot report table. There is obvious disagreement of  $m_{sr}$  values with the teleseismic determination ( $m_{ts}$ ) while the  $m_{8,5}$  values yield the statistically identical estimate of magnitude at both distance ranges. Note that magnitude estimates that differed by 1.74 units (DHNY and RTNM) according to  $m_{sr}$  differ by only 0.04 units when computed by  $m_{8,5}$ .

d. The application of formula (2) to other events in EUS achieves clarification and greater internal consistency of computed magnitudes. Figures 8 through 16 give the relevant data for all events studied. The events studied include surface explosions of zero focal depth, underwater explosions, and earthquakes of unknown but shallow focal depth. The variation of type of event is such that dependence of the observed patterns upon a specific source type cannot be seriously considered. Also, A/T appears little dependent on profile azimuth. The only GNOME data used in this part of the report comprise the profile laid out eastward from the test site. The only event showing marked discrepancy between mg 5 and mts is the Lake Superior 10-ton shot, mg 5 being  $4.3 \pm 0.35$ , whereas mts is  $3.5 \pm 0.35$ . The reason for this discrepancy cannot be demonstrated but

it will be shown under the discussion of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) events that variation in rock type at the source can lead to large variations in the pattern of energy distribution between generated P-wave signals.

- e. Note the systematic discrepancy of the  $m_{\rm ST}$  values, maximum predicted values by this formula being around 1000 kilometers. Figure 100 shows that  $m_{\rm ST}$  overestimates the magnitude by 1.5 units at 1000 kilometers and underestimates it by 0.4 units at 1900 kilometers, a difference of 1.9 units introduced not by the data but by the use of an inappropriate formula.
- f. Note also that the A/T versus  $\Delta$  data of these events indicate the total lack of any obvious shadow zone phenomenon. No shadow zone exists in EUS and the supposed problems of observing at distances of less than 2000 kilometers because of low signal levels do not exist for EUS events. The signal level at 1000 kilometers attains 30 times that predicted by the  $m_{ST}$  table and more than 10 times that predicted by  $m_{ST}$  at all distances between 400 and 1400 kilometers. The implications for the relative advantage of regional and near-regional stations versus teleseismic stations for regions of the crustal type of EUS appear obvious.

g. The Vermont Earthquake data depicted in Figure 16 provide an excellent example of the misconceptions that can be reached by use of inappropriate formulas. Very few stations recorded this event, no station beyond 2017 kilometers receiving a detectable signal. However, by use of mar values, one obtains an estimated magnitude of 4.7, an average of 5 values ranging from 5.4 to 3.3. An estimate of 4.7 magnitude on the basis of observations at regional and near-regional distances is in pronounced conflict with the fact of total lack of recordings at teleseismic distances. Such an event should yield an A/T value of 10 mm at 500 and should be widely recorded at teleseismic distances. The significance of this misevaluation will be pointed out in the forthcoming discussion of AR versus m. Here simply note that, by use of mg.5 values, the spread of m values for signals clear in both period and amplitude is 0.1 magnitude units as compared with 2.1 for mar values. The estimated magnitude becomes 3.8 or 3.9, consistent with no recordings beyond 2000 kilometers.

### WESTERN UNITED STATES

1. Travel-Time Curves for WUS. In the WUS, the situation becomes much more complicated than in EUS. Several events must be studied in order to oppreciate the complexity even to the extent that it is now understood. One could not find a suite of events which would establish the basic uniformity of the WUS as such uniformity does not exist. It seems only possible to appreciate the major patterns resulting from explosions at NTS and to then use the limited data available from other areas to suggest the similarities and dissimilarities with NTS data caused by varying epicentral positions and varying azimuths of profiles. We shall consider GNOME, CLIMAX (the 0.2 KT chemical explosion at Climax, Colorado), 50 shots at NTS, and 17 earthquakes distributed from Central Mexico through WUS to Queen Charlotte Islands.

# 2. Iravel-Time Curves of FORE.

- a. It is contenient to begin the discussion with FORE because of the excellent and significant profiles that were installed for this event. See Figure 17. The generally observed P7 9 refracted wave was well observed from 200 kilometers out to 1000 kilometers to the southeast, reaching Las Cruces, New Mexico (LCNM). Remember that all arrivals noted on figures of the type of Figure 17 are the first observed arrivals at the several stations. No observed second arrivals are shown. A Pg 5 leg was received as first arrival at Uinta Basin Seismological Observatory (UBSO), Blue Mountains Seismological Observatory (BMSO), Forsyth, Montana (FRMA), and at Glendive, Montana (GIMA), the positioning of Raton, New Mexico (RTNM), on this line being probably fortuitous. Note that the line through these points appears parallel to the SS Village profile but with a time intercept on the zero distance axis of 14 seconds rather than the 9 seconds of the SS Village profile. The time arrivals along the profile to the ESE provide both complex and interesting data. Blanding, Utah (BXUT), and Durango, Colorado (DRCO), lie well below the two previously mentioned refractions and cannot be related to either of them. More discussion of these arrivals will be presented later. RTNM probably did not actually receive a Pg 5 arrival consistent with the 8.5 profile through FRMA and GIMA but we cannot identify the phase measured at this time. The next stations on this profile appear to have recorded a signal with a slope of about 8.5 but with a time intercept on the zero distance axis of nearly 20 seconds. At least, they did not record the phase seen at BXUT and DRCO but something much later and with a higher refracted velocity.
- b. Finally, the P phase generally received as first arrival beyond 2000 kilometers is well observed at EBMT and RKON, 2148 and 2338 kilometers respectively, as well as at Hempstead, Texas (HETX), Hannah, North Dakota (HHND), and Ryder, North Dakota (RYND), the latter being at an epicentral distance of 1700 kilometers. Thus RYND failed to observe earlier but less energetic refractions, recording instead the strong  $P_{10.5}$  arrival as first arrival.
- 3. Travel-Time Curves of MISSISSIPPI. MISSISSIPPI (Figure 18) shows similarity to FORE,  $P_{7,9}$  being observed towards LCNM to 1200 kilometers and to shorter distances in other azimuths. Hailey, Idaho (HLID), and DRCO received as first arrivals signals preceding the expected  $P_{7,9}$  event. The profile across Colorado and the Dakotas follows the previously mentioned 8.5 leg to WNSD but then jumps to  $P_{10,5}$  for Academy, South Dakota (AYSD), at 1601 kilometers. Other points are associated, in some cases, with unclarified phases.

- 4. Travel-Time Curves of BILBY and CLEARWATER. The interpretation of the BXUT, HLID, and DRCO arrivals becomes clear as soon as larger events such as BILBY and CLEARWATER are considered (Figures 19 and 20). These events show the existence of an 8.0 8.1 refraction extending eastward from NTS through BXUT, DRCO, TDNM, and RTNM. Shamrock, Texas (SKTX), did not record this phase, a more energetic phase arriving at essentially the predicted time, while the figures show clearly that Apache, Oklahoma (APOK), Grapevine, Texas (GVTX), and Durant, Oklahoma (DUOK), observed other phases as first arrivals. As will be noted below, much of the supposed difference between MISSISSIPPI and BILBY and the inability of a formula based upon MISSISSIPPI data to reasonably interpret BILBY data results from different patterns of observation in a heterogeneous region.
- 5. Regional Variations of Travel-Time Curves in WUS. Regional variations within the WUS appear when events from other than NTS sites are considered. For CLIMAX (Figure 21), located in Colorado, the first arrivals at most stations in WUS were an 8.1 refraction with no stations measuring a 7.9 event as first arrival. As noted above, the eastern profile from GNOME (Eastern New Mexico) recorded only P8.5 while P8.1 and P7.9 were seen to the west and northwest (Figure 22), the P8.1 event being observed only very near GNOME. Note that the intersection of the P8.5 segment through Montana with P10.5 occurs at approximately 2000 kilometers while for the SS Village profile these two refractions intersect at about 2200 kilometers. The suggested P8.5 segment through Texas and Okalhoma for NTS events intersects P10.5 at about 1700 kilometers. P8.5 and P7.9 intersect at a distance of 1250 kilometers to the southeast and approximately 1000 kilometers to the north and northeast.
- 6. Conclusion. Thus, one may observe at least six different P phases from NTS shots and shots from different localities give rise to different patterns of travel-time curves. Compare this with EUS where essentially one travel-time curve for one phase satisfied all observed profiles. Not surprisingly, amplitude interpretation which does not depend upon phase identification, but which uses a single A/T versus  $\Delta$  on such complex data as that recorded from NTS and other WUS foci has yielded nearly chaotic results.

# ESTAPLISHMENT OF A/T VERSUS A CURVES FOR WESTERN UNITED STATES

- 1. Programmed Arrivals. Romney extensively employed Programmed arrivals (VSC Technical Note 10) to determine magnitudes of the smaller NTS events. He observed this phase as first arrival from NTS to LCNM and beyond to a distance of approximately 1050 kilometers. Northward from NTS, another excellent profile extends through Mina, Nevada (MNNV), to Pendleton, Oregon (PTOR), including HLID for events in which P<sub>8.1</sub> is too small to be recorded. PTOR frequently misses P<sub>7.9</sub> in favor of P8.5. Beyond PTOR in Washington, Montana, and the Dakotas, either P8.5 or P10.5 records as first arrival measured. DRCO, to the east of NTS never records P7.9 so that the data of that station should be ignored when considering P7.9. The dependence of A/T on  $\Delta$  for the NTS-LCNM profile (data from FISHER, DORMOUSE, STOAT, etc.), the LCNM-NTS profile (data from GNOME), and the NTS-PTOR profile (numerous events) is identical in all cases. This energy path should serve as an excellent source of internally consistent estimates of magnitude of events within the region. The procedure adopted by Romney for calibrating this energy event against teleseismic data is as follows (Romney, personal communication):
- "a. (U) Since 1961 recordings from numerous underground nuclear explosions at the NTS have been made at mobile stations operated under the VELA LRSM program. These stations have been located at many distances and azimuths from the test site. Some of the stations have operated more or less continuously and have recorded data from many explosions, while others have moved from time to time, recording only a limited number of explosions at a given location. The explosions have included yields smaller than 1 KT and larger than 100 KT. Shot points have been somewhat dispersed within the test site, with the result that the propagation paths to fixed stations, and hence the amplitudes, have been affected somewhat. Variations in coupling which appear to depend upon the characteristics of the rock and other conditions near the explosions have also been noted. It is, therefore, necessary to correct the measurements to common source conditions (explosive yield and coupling factors) before the data can be combined to give a good representation of the amplitude versus distance relationship.
- "b. (U) In the course of analyzing recordings from the explosions it was found that, for any given station, the values of log A/T versus log Y (Y = yield) fit an approximate straight line if the measurements were restricted to explosions in Yucca Flats. This made it possible to find A/T at a standard yield for each station by fitting the best straight line to a plot of amplitude versus yield. The amplitude of 10 KT was read from this line and used to represent the best value of A/T at the average distance of the station from the recorded shots.

It was required that at least four shots which bracket 10 KT be recorded before the data were used. This procedure tends to smooth out scatter in the data caused by small variations in coupling or in the path of propagation and by noise.

"() (U) The average values of log A/T at 10 KT for each station were plotted as a function of distance (figure 101). These points define a line given by

$$\log A/T = 9.50 \pm 0.72 - (3.04 \pm 0.26) \log \Delta$$
 (3)

where  $\Delta$  is measured in kilometers, T in seconds, and A in millimicrons. First arrivals at stations between 200 and 1050 kilometers were used. The slope of this curve is almost identical with that found in LOGAN and BLANCA.

"d. (U) The amplitudes of P<sub>7-Q</sub> can be associated with teleseismic magnitudes by comparison with the signals recorded at long ranges from the LRSM stations. The basic data used came from the 13 explosions which were recorded at five or more stations at teleseismic distance (Δ> 10°) as well as in the P<sub>n</sub> range. These shots were generally larger than 10 KT since only these larger shots can be satisfactorily recorded at teleseismic ranges. Unified magnitudes were computed for each such explosion from the measured amplitudes and period of P. The average magnitude for each event was then compared with the value of log A/T at 500 kilometers, as found by a least square fit of the P<sub>7-Q</sub> amplitude versus distance data. Results are shown in Figure 102. It may be seen that the magnitude increases more rapidly than log A/T at 500 kilometers. The relationship was found by least squares to be

$$m_{7.9} = 2.36 \pm 0.23 + (1.21 \pm 0.11) \log (A/T)_{500}$$
 (4)

This implies that the teleseismic amplitudes increase more rapidly with yield than does the amplitude at 500 kilometers. This probably results from the shift toward lower frequencies in the source as the yield increases together with the reduced attenuation at low frequencies.

"e. (i) Equations (3) and (4) may be combined to give the P7.9 amplitudes as a function of magnitude. The result is

$$m_{7.9} = -7.55 + 1.21 (log A/T + 3.04 log \Delta),"$$
 (5)

Note on Figure 100 that a discrepancy between  $m_{sr}$  and  $m_{7.9}$  of 0.6 occurs at  $m_{7.9}$  equal to 5.0,  $m_{7.9}$  being smaller than  $m_{sr}$ .

2.  $\underline{P_{10.5}}$  Arrivals. We shall fit a smoothed curve through the Gutenberg-Richter curve between 2100 and 3000 kilometers and, in addition, obtain the values of amplitude for  $\underline{P_{10.5}}$  observed at 1600 kilometers in North Dakota at RYND, etc. The equation obtained is

$$m_{10-5} = -10.35 + \log A/T + 4 \log \Delta$$
 (6)

where A/T is measured in millimicrons per second and  $\Delta$  in kilometers. The corresponding curve is shown on Figure 100 as P<sub>10.5</sub>. As far as is known, this dependence of A/T upon  $\Delta$  occurs independently of azimuth.

- 3.  $P_{8.5}$  Arrivals. As noted above, PTOR, at approximately 1000 kilometers, generally records  $P_{8.5}$  as first measured arrival. A phase with this velocity is observed as first arrival in Montana and the Dakotas. To the southeast, stations in Texas, Oklahoma, and beyond observe  $P_{8.5}$  as first arrival to 1800-2000 kilometers. The time intercepts for these three  $P_{8.5}$  profiles appear quite different, both from each other and from that typical of this refraction in EUS. Even so, we proceed by attempting to employ the  $m_{\text{eus}}$  formula for these arrivals. The results agree satisfactorily with the magnitude computed for  $P_{7.9}$  and teleseismic distance. Therefore, we adopt the  $m_{\text{eus}}$  (i. e.,  $m_{8.5}$ ) curve for computing magnitudes for arrivals on  $P_{8.5}$  profiles in WUS.
- 4. Pg.1 Arrivals. When establishing a curve for mg.1, a most interesting result appears in this case. A well-observed profile for this refraction for NTS shots requires a large explosion, only DRCO recording this phase for most events. Either this phase possesses very little energy or the energy dissipates rapidly along the refractor. In this connection, remember that for the (LIMAX shot in Colorado, a small event generated a widely observed  $P_{8,1}$  refraction. A/T values from CLIMAX measured toward Arizona decreased as about the inverse third power of the distance while along the profile from NTS through Southern Colorado into Northern New Mexico, A/T values for P<sub>8.1</sub> arrivals decrease as the inverse seventh power of the distance. Note that DRCO occurs on both the CLIMAX-Arizona and the NTS-New Mexico profiles. High amplitudes typify  $P_{8,1}$  arrivals at short distances from NTS. The signal decays so rapidly with increasing distance that it disappears into the noise beyond DRGO for small events. When one attempts to derive equations to use along the NIS-New Mexico profile by use of CLEARWATER and BILBY, it becomes apparent that the data of the two events require a 0.9 difference in the leading coefficient of the derived equations. Thus, for CLEARWATER, shot in mesa tuff, one obtains

$$m_{8,1}$$
 (CLEARWATER) = -17.20 + log A/T + 7 log  $\Delta$  (7)

while for BILBY, shot at 2314 foot depth in valley tuff,

$$m_{8.1}$$
 (BILBY) = -16.30 + log A/T + 7 log  $\Delta$ . (8)

Apparently, CLEARWATER coupled eight times as much energy (relative to that coupled into the other measured refracted phases) into this phase as did BILBY. If one computes DRCO  $P_{8}$ , arrivals for events with varying shot locations according to  $P_{8.1}$  (CLEARWATER) and  $P_{8.1}$  (BILBY), the following pattern emerges:

| TABLE . | TA |
|---------|----|
|---------|----|

|             |                 | Depth . | Magni tude | DRCO by m <sub>8,1</sub> (CLEARWATER) | DRCO by m <sub>8.1</sub> (BILBY) |
|-------------|-----------------|---------|------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|             |                 |         |            |                                       |                                  |
| DORMOUSE    | Alluvium (3)    | 1191 ft | 3.64       | 3.72                                  | •                                |
| MISSISSIPPI | Valley Tuff (9) | 1615    | 4.76       | •                                     | 4.89                             |
| CIMARRON    | Alluvium (9)    | 1000    | 3.98       | 3.71                                  | •                                |
| STILLWATER  | Alluvium (9)    | 625     | 3.46       | 3.27                                  | -                                |
| CODSAW      | Alluvium (9)    | 696     | 3.40       | 3.03                                  | •                                |
| MINK        | Alluvium (3)    | 630     | 2.72       | 3.06                                  | •                                |
| HAYMAKER    | Alluvium (12)   | 1351    | 4.52       | -                                     | 4.46                             |
| DES MOINES  | Mesa Tuff (12)  |         | 3.72       | 3.71                                  | •                                |
| MARSHMALLOW | Mesa Tuff (12)  |         | 3.99       | 3.63                                  | -                                |
| MADISON     | Mesa Tuff (12)  |         | 3.71       | 3.73                                  | •                                |

Thus, all of the mesa tuff shots behaved similarly to CLEARWATER but so did all of the shallow valley shots. Only HAYMAKER and MISSISSIPPI coupled as little energy into this refractor as did BILBY. Thus, the use of data obtained from this refraction throughout WUS requires extensive crustal calibration (CLIMAX profile versus NTS profile) as well as calibration of energy in the phase relative to source location. In other words, this phase does not appear very useful for routine investigations. The very high rate of amplitude decrease eastward from NTS together with the markedly different behavior on another azimuth through the same area imply the disappearance eastward of the velocity contrast requisite for the refraction. Such an azimuth dependent phenomnon requires lateral crustal inhomogeneities.

DETAILED ANALYSES OF STATION MAGNITUDE VALUES FOR MISSISSIPPI, BILBY, AND HARDHAT

1. <u>Introduction</u>. Three events will be discussed in detail. Two of them, MISSISSIPPI and BILBY, illustrate the problem of observing different profiles and thus possibly different phases for different events while interpreting all data by an inadequate generalized formula. All three events illustrate a type of problem that even proper phase assignment

will not defeat. Obtaining the same estimated magnitude from several phases of the same event requires that the energy partition function for the event be identical to that for the event or events used in establishing the function. Otherwise, magnitude becomes a function of phase.

2. <u>MISSISSIPPI</u>. MISSISSIPPI (Figures 18 and 64) probably represents the most significant event used in the establishment of the m<sub>7.0</sub> formula. Not surprisingly then, m<sub>7.0</sub> and m<sub>7.0</sub> values agree closely. Use of the standard EUS m<sub>8.5</sub> formula obtained excellent agreement with m<sub>ts</sub>. The station-by-station data are as follows:

TABLE V
MISSISSIPPI

| <del></del> | Δ    | Magnitude  | msr |       | Δ    | Magni tude   | m<br>sr |
|-------------|------|------------|-----|-------|------|--------------|---------|
| MNNV        | 234  | 5.06 (7.9) | 6.0 | SSTX  | 1496 | 4.33 (8.5)   | 5.0     |
| KNUT        | 278  | 4.68 (7.9) | 5.5 | WNSD  | 1507 | 4.83 (8.5)   | 5.6     |
| FMUT        | 408  | - ?        | 4.8 | нвок  | 1555 | 4.98 (8.5)   | 5.5     |
| TFCL        | 415  | 3.70 (7.9) | 4.5 | CKBC  | 1578 | 4.52 (8.5)   | 5.0     |
| WINV        | 483  | 4.83 (7.9) | 5.8 | WMSO  | 1596 | 4.55 (8.5)   | 4.9     |
| FSAZ        | 485  | 4.86 (7.9) | 5.5 | AYSD  | 1601 | 4.95 (10.5)  | 6.0     |
| CPCL        | 490  | 5.10 (7.9) | 5.7 | нмвс  | 1670 | 4.84 (8.5)   | 5.0     |
| MVCL        | 517  | - ?        | •   | PUOK  | 1714 | ?            |         |
| <b>TFSO</b> | 536  | 4.67 (7.9) | 5.0 | CTOK  | 1910 | 4.30 (10.5?) | 4.3     |
| DRCO        | 733  | 4.89 (8.1) | 5.5 | SJTX  | 1970 | 4.86 (10.5)  | 4.9     |
| HLID        | 739  | 4.61 (8.1) | 4.6 | SEMN  | 1971 | 4.42 (10.5)  | 4.5     |
| BMSO        | 863  | 4.47 (7.9) | 5.2 | MPAR  | 2083 | 4.49 (10.5)  | 4.6     |
| PTOR        | 971  | 4.88 (8.5) | 5.3 | LR 17 | 2099 | 4.85 (10.5)  | 4.9     |
| LCNM        | 1101 | 4.41 (7.9) | 5.2 | HTNM  | 2120 | 5.12 (10.5)  | 5.2     |
| <b>PMWY</b> | 1027 | 4.40 (7.9) | 5.2 | LR 16 | 2460 | 5.11 (10.5)  | 5.1     |
| HKWY        | 1126 | 4.51 (8.5) | 6.0 | ARWS  | 2460 | 5.05 (10.5)  | 5.1     |
| MUWA        | 1392 | 4.27 (8.5) | 5.3 | CVTN  | 2565 | 4.95 (10.5)  | 5.0     |

Average of all stations at less than 1900 kilometers - 4.76 (4.3-5.2) Average of 28 stations between 1900 and 4064 kilometers - 4.69 (4.3-5.1) Average of all m values at less than 1900 kilometers - 4.76 (4.3-6.0)

The figures in parentheses are the extreme values in each group of values.

Apparently, computations based upon phase assignment and appropriate formulas have made the computed magnitude independent of epicentral distance and have also reduced the range of variation of the data. Whereas the range in computed values was 4.3 to 6.0 using the shot report table, the use of phase curves reduced the range to 4.3 to 5.2, i. e., half the previous range. The pairs PMWY - HKWY and WMSO - AYSD clearly show the influence of proper phase identification. For the former pair, m values were 5.2 and 6.0, while properly interpreting the PMWY arrival as P, and the HKWY arrival as P, leads to magnitude estimates of m, = 4.40 and m, = 4.51, respectively. The m, values for WMSO and AYSD are 4.9 and 6.0, while, when making proper phase identifications,  $m_{g}$  for WMSO is 4.55 and  $m_{10}$  for AYSD is 4.95. Regarding the rejection of such stations as TFCL and MVCL, we argue that, for interpretation, we require a reasonably clear-cut relationship between data obtained at a given station and that recorded at teleseismic distances. If we have not established as yet such a relationship, the proper mode of interpretation of the data of such stations is unknown and we ignore their recordings. Further investigations than reported here may render the data of such stations meaningful in a magnitude sense, and thus useable.

# 3. BILBY. For BILBY (Figures 19 and 65), the data are as follows:

TABLE VI

|             | Δ     | Magnitude    | msr |      | Δ    | Magnitude    | m<br>sr |
|-------------|-------|--------------|-----|------|------|--------------|---------|
| MNNV        | 242   | 5.46 (7.9)   | 6.0 | TDNM | 880  | 5.59 (8.1)   | 5.3     |
| KNUT        | 284   | 5.42 (7.9)   | 5.9 | RINM | 1039 | 5.32 (8.1)   | 5.2     |
| CPCL        | 483   | ? early      |     | AZTX | 1278 | 5.05 (8.5)   | 6.2     |
| WINV        | 493   | 5.01 (7.9)   | 5.6 | FRM4 | 1232 | 5.17 (8.5)   | 6.3     |
|             |       | 5.13 (8.1)   |     | TKWA | 1337 | ?            | 6.0     |
| MVCL        | 520   | ? early      |     | SKTX | 1426 | 5.26 (8.5)   | 6.2     |
| TFSO        | 529   | 5.68 (7.9)   | 6.2 | GIMA | 1487 | 5.05 (8.5)   | 5.9     |
| BXUT        | 586   | 5.68 (8.1)   | 5.9 | WMSO | 1593 | 5.18 (8.5)   | 5.5     |
| <b>UBSO</b> | 668   | 5.46 (8.5)   | 6.7 | RYND | 1705 | 5.40 (10.5)  | 6.0     |
| DRCO        | 732   | 5.91 (8.1)   | 5,9 | GVTX | 1794 | 5.75 (8.5) ? | 5.4     |
| HLID        | 747   | 5.51 (8.1)   | 5.6 | DUOK | 1831 | 5.81 (8.5) ? | 5.5     |
| <b>BMSO</b> | 871 ? | 4.24 (8.5) ? | 5.6 | HHND | 1926 | 5.83 (10.5)  | 6.0     |

Average of 18 stations at less than 1900 kilometers - 5.44 (5.1-5.9) Average of 18 stations beyond 1900 kilometers (1926-9100) - 5.6 (5.2-6.0)

Note that, in the local al 550-1040 kilometers, the only profile observed for BILRY was the NIS - BXUT - DRCO - TDNM - RTNM path, and that Pg 1 was observed as first arrival at all stations. When calculated according to my o (tacitly assuming that all arrivals in this distance range are Py o), magnitude estimates at these stations are 5.33, 4.64, 4.64, and 4.55, respectively, values below estimates made upon P7 q arrivals and values apparently decreasing with distance. The values entered in the tabulation above were found, as described previously, by calibration against the teleseismic data of this event. Note that the  $m_{7,9}$  and  $m_{8,5}$  values appear systematically low relative to m<sub>10.5</sub> and m<sub>ts</sub> values. We obtained, by use of the same formulas, excellent agreement between magnitude estimates at all ranges for MISSISSIPPI. This implies that the energy partition for these two events, BILBY and MISSISSIPPI, differed markedly. The apparent agreement of  $m_{8,1}$  and  $m_{ts}$  occurs because we calibrated the  $m_{8,1}$  formula by use of this event. Probably, calibration against m7.9 and m8.5 would have had more meaning, making all of the shallow refractions less energetic relative to m<sub>10.5</sub> and deeper refractions for BILBY than for MISSISSIPPI. Such variation in the energy partition function requires either nonradial symmetry in the source radiation function, varying patterns of vertical velocity structure in the two shot areas sufficient to give the observed differences of energy level in the lunes of the focal sphere giving rise to the several refractions, or frequency and depth dependent attenuation factors.

# 4. HARDHAT. For HARDHAT (Figure 75), the data are as follows:

TABLE VII

|        |       |              | الكلمة جوية، ومعوول |      |      |              |      |
|--------|-------|--------------|---------------------|------|------|--------------|------|
| MNNV   | 228   | 4.96 (7.9)   | 5.96                | MLNM | 78 l | 3.56 (8.1CL) | 4,29 |
| ATNV   | 263   | 5.30 (7.9)   | 6.11                | TCNM | 902  | 4.47 (8.1CL) | 4.66 |
| KNUT   | 288   | 5.12 (7.9)   | 5.89                |      |      | 5.34 (8.1B') | 4.86 |
| INCL   | 336   | 4.09 (7.9)   | 4.92                | PTOR | 961  | 4,44 (8,5)   | 4,86 |
| WMAZ   | 399   | 4,90 (7.0)   | 5,49                | LCNM | 1617 | 3.79 (1.9)   | 4.64 |
| FMUT   | 403   | 4,06 (7,9)   | 4.83                | RTNM | 1043 | Very late    |      |
| WINV   | 474   | 5,19 (7.9)   | 5.78                | TRWA | 1070 | 4.27 (8.5)   | 5.74 |
| FSAZ   | 490   | 5.18 (7.9)   | 5.80                | EPTX | 1095 | 3.46 (8.5)   | 4.94 |
| CPCL   | 500   | ? early      |                     | EFTX | 1209 | 2.89 (8.5*)  | 4.21 |
| MVCI   | 512   | ? early      |                     | GNNM | 1244 | 3.30 (8.5*)  | 4.56 |
| SFAZ   | 589   | 5.63 (79)    | 6.13                | BMTX | 1324 | 4.05 (8.51)  | 5.18 |
| VNUI   | 669   | 5,19 (7,9)   |                     | SSTX | 1501 | 3.60 (8.51)  | 4.32 |
| VTOR   | · 688 | 4.90 (7.9)   |                     | WNSD | 1504 | 4.24 (8.51)  | 4.96 |
| SVAZ   | 711   | 4.47 (7.9)   |                     | HBOK | 1557 | 4.18 (8.5)   |      |
| HLID " | 729   | 3.48 (8.1CL) | 4,34                |      |      | •            |      |
|        |       | 4.08 (8.1B)  |                     |      |      |              |      |
| DRCO   | 734   | 4.32 (8.1CL) | 5.20                |      |      |              |      |
|        |       | 4.92 (8.1B') |                     |      |      |              |      |

TABLE VII (Contd)

|      | Δ    | Magnitude   | msr  |      | Δ    | Magnitu <b>d</b> e | msr  |
|------|------|-------------|------|------|------|--------------------|------|
| WMSO | 1598 | ?           |      | MPAR | 2084 | 3.90 (10.5)        | 5.00 |
| LPTX | 1765 | ?           |      | NGWS | 2500 | 4.13 (10.5)        | 4.13 |
| SEMN | 1967 | 4.41 (8.5)  | 4.02 | MMIN | 2728 | 4.34 (10.5)        | 4.37 |
| SITY | 1975 | 4.09 (10.5) | 5.37 |      |      |                    |      |

The three symbols for P8.5 arrivals identify probable 8.5 refractions from different profiles with different intercept times. The identification of the primed events as P8.5 is tentative. Uncertainty exists as to the appropriateness of using m8.1 (CLEARWATER) or m8.1 (BILBY) (prime implying 0.3 adjustment of BILBY formula based upon discussion of BILBY). If the computed magnitudes are grouped according to phase, the following tabulation is obtained:

| <sup>m</sup> 7.9 | m <sub>8.1</sub> (CL) | m <sub>8.1</sub> (B*) | <sup>m</sup> 8.5 | <sup>m</sup> 8.5* | <sup>m</sup> 8.5' | m <sub>10.5</sub> |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 4.96             | 3.48                  | 4.08                  | 4.44             | 4.05              | 3.46              | 4.09              |
| 5.30             | 4.32                  | 4.92                  | 4.27             | 3.60              | 2.89              | 3.90              |
| 5.12             | 3.56                  | 4.16                  | 4.24             | 4.18              | 3.30              | 4.13              |
| 4.09             | 4.74                  | 5.35                  | 4.41             |                   |                   | 4.34              |
| 4.90             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |
| 4.06             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |
| 5.19             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |
| 5.18             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |
| 5.63             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |
| 5.19             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |
| 4.90             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |
| 4.47             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |
| 3.79             |                       |                       |                  |                   |                   |                   |

The two arrivals that were I second early relative to P7.9 and had very low computed my 9 magnitudes (4.09 and 4.06), together with the unusually low estimate at LCNM (3.79) introduce an abnormal spread into the m7.9 data. If one ignores these arrivals, the average  $m_{7.9} = 5.17$ , if they are included, the average m<sub>7.9</sub> = 4.87. The mean  $m_{8.1}$  (B') = 4.62, the mean  $m_{8.5}$  = 4.34, the mean  $m_{10.5}$  = 4.12. with the  $m_{8.5}$  and  $m_{8.5}$  values even lower. Obviously, the formulas used for MISSISSIPPI do not satisfy HARDHAT. No obvious distance dependence appears in any phase. The path length differences between P7.9, P8.5, and P10.5 represent small fractions of the total path lengths so that one cannot explain a dependence of magnitude upon phase as being due to a higher frequency signal for HARDHAT than for MISSISSIPPI with a more rapid decay of signal with distance. The lack of dependence of magnitude upon distance in each phase also suggests this conclusion. Another explanation seems required. The decrease in m10.5 values shown above from those in the shot report largely results from miscalculation in the shot report.

COMPARISON OF MAGNITUDES COMPUTED BY  $m_{\text{ST}}$  AND THE SEVERAL CURVES OF THIS REPORT

A comparison of the magnitudes computed by msr and the several curves established here clarifies the significance of employing the proper curve (see Figure 100). At 1900-2000 kilometers, mgr underestimates relative to mg\_5 by 0.4. At 1600 kilometers, msr underestimates the magnitude by 0.3 relative to mg.5 and 1.0 relative to m10.5. Even if using the new curves, an error of 0.7 will be made if one misidentifies the phase measured. At 1100 kilometers, mgr overestimates with respect to both relevant curves, 0.5 relative to m7.9 and 1.5 relative to m8.5. Again, if m7.9 and m8.5 are used but misidentification of a phase occurs, an error of 1.0 will be made in magnitude, PTOR providing a perfect example of this phenomenon. This station routinely sees Pg.5 as first arrival for NTS events though being only 970 kilometers from NTS. the gross discrepancy between msr and m8.5 at all distances less than 1400 kilometers. Fortuitously, these curves cross around 1700 kilometers due to the attempt to get by some means from something approximating a mean between m7.9 and m8.5 at 1000 to  $m_{10.5}$  at around 1800 kilometers. Between 1000 and 2000 kilometers the msr and my, 9 curves nearly parallel one another, the difference between the two curves being 0.63 at  $m_{Sr} = 5$  and 0.95 at  $m_{Sr} = 3$ . We included  $m_{8.1}$  (CLEARWATER) on Figure 100 to demonstrate the grossly different behavior of this phase with distance from that of all other curves. Inside 600 kilometers, P8.1 (CLEARWATER) appears larger than either P7.9 or P8.5 for m = 4, while it decays to 1.5 mu at 1000 kilometers for m = 4.

# RECALCULATION OF ALL SHOTS PREVIOUSLY ANALYZED IN SHOT REPORTS

Subject to the limitations and uncertainties of the type just described, the A/T versus  $\Delta$  versus magnitude data of all previously analyzed events were recalculated based upon the formulas given above. As none of them, other than SHOAL, were in granite, one does not expect problems of the type met in analyzing the data of HARDHAT. Figures 24 through 79 present the recalculated magnitude values, the figures for selected events (Figures 8, 9, 10, 58, 60, 62, 64, 65, 73, 76, and 78) including shot report values of magnitude for comparison and study purposes. The magnitude of these events was obtained by averaging all recomputed values, the symbol mb' being adopted for this average value. The values of mb' are those used throughout the following discussion and tables. It is clear from the indicated figures that the gross dependence of magnitude upon distance which was present in shot report values of magnitude has been largely eliminated by use of the phase formulas. Small events only recorded at less than 1500 kilometers are reduced in magnitude (mb') from  $m_{ST}$  values by as much as a full magnitude. The following tabulation (TABLE VIII) gives all mb' values computed by procedures of this report for explosions, together with mar values and values derived by Romney by use of A/T values at 500 kilometers for the smaller events.

TABLE VIII

Magnitude Data on Selected NTS Shots

| SHOT           | m <sub>b</sub> • | m <sub>R</sub> | m <sub>sr</sub> |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Alluvium       |                  |                |                 |
| SHREW          | 1.2              |                | 2.3             |
| MAD            | 2.37             |                | 3.7             |
| MINK           | 2.72             | 2.93           | 3.7             |
| CHINCHILLA II  | 2.73             | 2.84           | 3.8             |
| ROANOKE        | 2.94             | 3.21           | 3.9             |
| CHINCHILLA     | 3.16             | 3.33           | 4.2             |
| ALLEGHENY      | 3.04             | 3.31           | 4.0             |
| KAWEAH         | 3.15             | 3.36           | 4.1             |
| STILLWATER     | 3.46             | 3.40           |                 |
| CODSAW         | 3.40             | 3.54           | 4.3             |
| BOBAC          | 3.39             | 3.60           | 4.2             |
| RINGTAIL       | 3.21             | 3.36           | 4.1             |
| SACRAMENTO     | 3.32             | 3.40           | 4.1             |
| STOAT          | 3.38             | 3.60           | 4.5             |
| WICHITA        | 3.47             | 3.58           | 4.5             |
| AGOUTI         | 3.55             | 3.83           | 4.5             |
| SANTEE         | 3.30             | 3.56           | 4.2             |
| ARMADILLO      | 3.51             | 3.78           | -               |
| PACKRAT        | 3.69             | 3.73           | 4.2             |
| CASSELMAN      | 3.64             | 3.96           | 4.6             |
| HYRAX          | 3.43             | 3.60           | 4.4             |
| ACUSHI         | 3.51             | 3.75           | 4.4             |
| DORMOUSE PRIME | 3.73             | 3.91           | 4.6             |
| DORMOUSE       | 3.64             | 3.83           | 4.5             |
| CIMARRON       | 3.98             | 4.38           | -               |
| YORK           | 3.69             | 3.92           | 4.4             |
| PEBÁ           | 3.54             | 3.78           | 4.4             |
| PASSAIC        | 3.69             | 4.06           | 4.3             |
| FISHER         | 3.45             | 3.68           | 4.3             |
| MERR IMAC      | 3.80             | 3.87           | 4.3             |
| HAYMAKER       | 4.52             | 4.5            | 4.9             |
| SEDAN (crater) | 4.12             | -              | 4.7             |

# TABLE VIII (Contd)

| SHOT                 | m <sub>b</sub> •       | m <sub>R</sub> | m <sub>sr</sub> |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Valley Tuff          |                        |                |                 |
| AARDVARK             | 4.55                   | 4.7            | 4.9             |
| STONES               | 4.50                   | 4.6            | 4.8             |
| FORE                 | 4.85                   | 4.9            | 5.2             |
| MISSI <b>SSIPPI</b>  | 4.76                   | 4.7            | 5.1             |
| BILBY                | 5.61                   | 5.6            | 5.8             |
| Mesa Tuff            |                        |                |                 |
| FEATHER              | 2.13                   | -              | 3.2             |
| CHENA                | 2.76                   | -              | 3.9             |
| PLATTE               | 3.44                   | •              | •               |
| ANTLER               | 4.03                   | -              | 4.7             |
| MADISON              | 3.71                   | -              | 4.5             |
| DES MOINES           | 3.72                   | •              | 4.5             |
| MARSHMALLOW          | 3.99                   | 4.0            | 4.5             |
| CLEARWATER           | 4.71                   | 4.9            | 5.3             |
| HANDCAR              | 4.19                   | •              | 4.7             |
| (Dolomite)           |                        | -              |                 |
| HARDHAT<br>(Granite) | 4.15(m <sub>ts</sub> ) | 4.6            | 4.9             |
| SHOAL                | 4.62                   | 4.8            | 4.9             |
| (Granite)            |                        |                |                 |
| DANNY BOY            | 3.06                   | •              | 3.6             |
| (Basalt)             |                        |                |                 |
| GNOME                | 4.27                   | •              | 4.6             |
| (Salt)               |                        |                |                 |
| CLIMAX               | 3.73                   |                | 4.4             |
| (Granite, Chemical)  |                        |                | ,,,,,           |
| CHASE III (Water)    | 4.7 (m <sub>ts</sub> ) | -              | •               |

# RELATIVE MAGNITUR F. USE OF DATA OF FIXED STATIONS

Another approach to establishing relative magnitudes of NTS events is to compare A/T values of the events as recorded at fixed stations. Relative magnitude should be determinable to within several percent by this approach and one measure of the meaningfulness of the overall scheme here employed would be the agreement of relative magnitudes of NTS events as computed by the two methods of analysis. Several events are analyzed by relative amplitudes at fixed stations in Table IX, all stations being restricted to ones receiving P7.9 in WUS from NTS events.

TABLE IX . Comparison of  $m_{\tilde{b}}$  , and Individual Station Relative Magnitudes

| Event         | m <sub>b</sub> . | Relative mb. | Rela  | tive m    |       |       |       |      |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|------|
|               |                  | (CHIN II)    | MNNV  | MNNV WINV |       | FSAZ  | Av    | δm   |
| CHINCHILLA II | 2.73             | 2.73*        | 2.62* | 2.35*     | 3.12* | 3.01* | 2.78* | +.05 |
| KAWEAH        | 3.15             | .42          | .73   | 1.18      | 10    | .03   | .51   | +.09 |
| STOAT         | 3.38             | .65          | .89   | •         | .59   | .62   | .70   | +.05 |
| CODSAW        | 3.40             | . 67         | . 84  | 1.10      | . 34  | .19   | .62   | 05   |
| FISHER        | 3.45             | .72          | 1.20  | .80       | .42   | .59   | .75   | +.03 |
| ACUSHI        | 3.51             | .78          | 1.11  | . 96      | . 35  | . 84  | .82   | +.04 |
| DORMOUSE      | 3.64             | .91          | 1.30  | •         | .53   | .70   | .83   | 08   |
| CASSELMAN     | 3.64             | . 91         | 1.16  | 1.49      | .61   | .68   | .99   | +.08 |
| PASSAIC       | 3.69             | . 96         | 1.23  | 1.34      | .72   | .75   | 1.01  | +.05 |
| MADISON       | 3.71             | . 98         | 1.08  | 1.32      | 1.07  | 1.09  | 1.14  | +.16 |

<sup>\*</sup>CHINCHILLA II data are basis of comparison for other events.

In Table IX, the data of CHINCHILLA II are the basis of comparison. Thus, in the row for CHINCHILLA II, values are magnitudes as estimated by m7.9 while in the rows for other events, values are differences between magnitude for these events and CHINCHILLA II at the indicated station or stations, based on measured A/T values. Note that such an approach does not necessarily eliminate a full magnitude spread in the data (KAWEAH, for example). Column 8 is an average of the relative magnitude values obtained at the four fixed stations (KNUT, MNNV, FSAZ, and WINV) while Column 9 is the difference between this relative magnitude estimate and that of the magnitude values of this report (mb). In only one case, MADISON, does a value in Column 9 exceed 0.1 magnitude unit. The conclusion is that the procedural scheme used of averaging values computed by various phase formulas has passed another significant test.

APPLICATION OF THE PHASE CURVES TO EARTHQUAKES OF WESTERN UNITED STATES

1. General. Problems of two sorts expectedly arise in the application of these formulas to data from earthquakes. First, the factor of relative excitation of phases, significant in such a small region as NTS, expectedly introduces inconsistencies in predicted magnitudes of earthquakes. Second, the certain definition of phase for each arrival measured becomes more difficult than for NTS shots. For shots, phase definition is comparatively simple since we know accurately the time of origin and epicenter and 2-second differentials in travel-times are clear and meaningful. However, the programs used in locating earthquakes do not consider the presence of two dominant refracted phases in the distance range 300-1800 kilometers. The attempt to locate epicenters on the basis of a formula that obscures these two arrivals by treating them as one or as an invalid two can lead only to phase confusion and lack of definition on a  $T = \Delta/8.1$  plot. SHOAL and the Fallon Earthquake form an excellent demonstration pair of this phenomenon. These two events occurred very near each other and many of the same stations recorded them. The  $T = \Delta/8.1$  plot for SHOAL (see shot report) clearly shows the several refracted phases. Time of origin and epicenter were very accurately known and were not derived from the travel-time data. The Fallon Earthquake, however, of necessity was located by use of the travel-time data and by use of an earth model which did not represent the velocity structure of the region. Thus, appreciable uncertainties in the time of origin and epicenter resulted in a confused and virtually undecipherable  $T = \Delta/8.1$  plot. In such a situation, one must, almost of necessity, establish arbitrary ranges for the applicability of each phase magnitude formula. We adopt the convention that m, q applies to all stations with  $< \Delta \le 1000$  kilometers, mg 5 to all stations with  $1000 < \Delta \le 1800$ , and mio.5 and m<sub>ts</sub> beyond 1800 kilometers. The breaking of this rule occurs when obvious reason to do so exists and we note such exceptions. Expectedly, the shadow-zone effects of the Sierra Nevada influence relative amplitudes of these phases. With these limitations in mind, we selected for study a set of WUS earthquakes. Several events

reported by the US Coast and Geodetic Survey (USC&GS) to be of magnitude 5 or greater augment earthquakes previously reported by VELA in shot report style. As an interesting sidelight of this investigation, note that USC&GS or Pasadena often greatly overestimate magnitudes of small earthquakes (5 or less) relative to teleseismic magnitudes. Much of this is clearly due to use of invalid formulas relating magnitude, distance, and A/T.

# 2. Farthquakes Studied. The earthquakes investigated are those of:

| 5<br>15<br>15       | Feb<br>Feb               | 1962<br>1962<br>1962<br>1962         | 38<br>36<br>37             | 51<br>04 | 10<br>10             | . 2         | 54*<br>36<br>26<br>58 | W | Colona Earthquake Report      |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
|                     |                          | 1962                                 |                            | 12       | 17                   |             | 12                    |   | hebgen Earthquake Report      |
| 5                   | Apr                      | 1962                                 | 38                         | 24       | ן ו                  | 9           | 18                    |   | Bridgeport Earthquake Report  |
| 27<br>20            | May<br>Jul               | 1962<br>1962<br>1962<br>1962         | 41<br>31.7<br>39<br>42     | 30       | 12<br>11<br>11<br>12 | <b>5.</b> 8 | 6<br>18               |   | Fallon Earthquake Report      |
|                     | _                        | 196?                                 | 41                         | 54       | 11                   |             | 24                    |   | Cache Creek Earthquake Report |
|                     | _                        | 1962                                 | 40                         | 62       | 11                   | . 2         | 00                    |   | Cache Creek Earthquake Report |
| 16                  | Sep                      | 1962                                 | 36                         |          | 11                   | 9           |                       |   |                               |
| 18<br>22<br>5<br>24 | Nov<br>Mar<br>Jul<br>Oct | 1962<br>1963<br>1964<br>1964<br>1964 | 45<br>30<br>38<br>26<br>44 |          |                      | 4<br>9<br>1 |                       |   |                               |
| 22                  | Dec                      | 1964                                 | 31.3                       | )        | 11                   | 6.          | 9                     |   |                               |

Figures 81 through 98 display the msr values and the phase magnitude values. The general phenomenon of predicting too high a magnitude by use of msr at less than 1700 kilometers becomes as apparent as for NTS shots. Fallon, in particular, interests us as its pattern of computed magnitude values is so similar to that of SHOAL, implying essentially identical energy partition functions of these two events as regards P-wave energy. The events of 14 April 1962, 27 May 1962, 6 November 1962, and 24 October 1964 display excellent adjustment of the data by use of the phase formulas in contrast to the poor adjustment when using msr. Events of 2 February 1962, 21 August 1962, 16 September 1962, 22 March 1964, 31 March 1964, and 5 July 1964 give lower estimates of magnitude at less than approximately 1400 kilometers than at greater epicentral distances. Note that these events occurred either immediately west of the Sierra Nevada or in Mexico, or near Queen Charlotte Islands.

- 3. Small Earthquakss. The quakes of 5, 15, and 25 February 1962, 5 April 1962, and 6 August 1963, i. e., Colona, Kanab aftershock, Hebgen, Bridgeport, and one other, were not recorded at teleseismic distances because of their small size. The first four were used by Mansfield in his discussion of AR. Note that, of all of them, the use of msr values predicts a teleseismic magnitude completely inconsistent with the short distances over which these events were recorded. Adjustment by the phase formulas brings the individual magnitude data into more reasonable internal agreement and, in addition, yields reasonable magnitudes in light of the short range of recorded signals. A more detailed discussion from a regional pattern point of view seems unwarranted until a large sample of events has been analyzed. It seems obvious, however, that treatment of the A/T data of earthquakes of WUS by the WUS phase formulas yields a more internally consistent body of data than that obtained by use of msr values.
- 4. Libyar Earthquake of 21 February 1963. As a trial note on this point the two Libyan earthquakes (Figure 99) studied by Gordon<sup>5</sup> suggest the appropriateness of application of these formulas (or at least mg.5) to the Mediterranean area. For the two events reported in the abovementioned paper, ATU and IST, 5.8° and 10.6°, respectively, yielded excessive magnitude estimates by use of m<sub>sr</sub> values but yield values consistent with m<sub>ts</sub> by mg.5 for IST and mg.8 for ATU.

## USE OF P PHASES AS DIAGNOSTIC AIDS

The agreement of m<sub>6.0</sub> (see Appendix), m<sub>7.9</sub>, m<sub>8.5</sub>, m<sub>10.5</sub>, and m<sub>15</sub> values for both explosions and earthquakes means that relative excitation of these phases cannot be used as a diagnostic criterion for distinguishing explosions and earthquakes. Little doubt exists that patterns of variable relative excitation such as observed for BILBY and HARDHAT will occur in earthquakes also but a pattern separating earthquakes and explosions does not exist.

VELOCITY STRUCTURE OF CRUST OR CRUST AND UPPER MANTLE IN EASTERN UNITED STATES AND WESTERN UNITED STATES

## 1. EUS

- a. Limited  $P_g$  data indicate that in EUS this phase is never the clearly marked phase that it is in WUS. The events picked as  $P_g$  appear to have a zero-distance time-intercept of several seconds and a velocity of about 6.4 kilometers per second. However, the data are exceedingly poor.
- b. Figure 23 is the basis of the following discussion, being based upon numerous shot reports. The P<sub>8.5</sub> event records as first arrival to 2100 kilometers. The SS Village profile (recorded by land stations,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Gordon, David W., 1963, Libyan Earthquake of 21 February 1963, USC&GS Publication.

the nearest being a tew hundred kilometers from the shot point) has an intercept of +9 seconds. This represents a path which includes one trip through the EUS crust, one trip through an oceanic crust, and a horizontal leg of a few hundred kilometers to continental structures at about 8.1 kilometers per second rather than the continental velocity. GNOME-East shows an intercept of +11 seconds, this intercept being representative of two trips through the EUS crust. We will assume that 5.5 seconds characterize crustal thickness in EUS, the 3.5 second difference of the SS Village intercept being explained by the two last path segments mentioned above.

- c. Very simple crustal models suffice for the discussion which follows. The discussion illustrates the contrast between EUS and WUS, a contrast so gross that slight details of crustal model are of second-order significance. Therefore, we assume a velocity of 6.0 kilometers per second above the P8.5 refractor and obtain a thickness of 46 kilometers for the crust in EUS. This thickness varies as other investigations have shown, but an average figure suffices for this discussion.
- 2. <u>WUS.</u> A cursory glance at Figure 23 reveals immediately the gross contrast between travel-time curves for EUS and WUS in the range 150-2100 kilometers. As we have already illustrated, marked differences occur within WUS itself.
- a. Pg is well observed in WUS out to 1000 kilometers and has a velocity of very nearly 6.0 kilometers per second.
- b. P7.9 is widely observed in WUS for NTS events. Its intercept does not depend upon azimuth from NTS and is about +5 seconds. Use of a layer velocity of 6.0 kilometers per second indicates a depth of 26 kilometers to this refractor.
- c. The Pg.5 NTS/Dakotas profile has an intercept of +14 seconds, representing the sum of 1-way trips through WUS and EUS crustal types, all times having been measured in EUS for this phase on this profile. If 5½ seconds represent a 1-way trip through the EUS crust, 8½ seconds characterize a 1-way trip through the WUS crust.
- d. For Pg.5 NTS/Washington, an observed intercept of about +18 seconds should characterize a 2-way trip through the WUS crust. A value of 9 seconds for a 1-way journey agrees nicely with the value of 8½ found on the NTS/Dakotas profile.
- e. If we assume an average value of 8.0 kilometers per second for the velocity in the layer between the P<sub>7.9</sub> and P<sub>8.5</sub> refractors in WUS, a thickness of approximately 130 kilometers is found for this.

layer. The P<sub>R 5</sub> refractor in WUS then occurs at a depth of about 150 kilometers while in EUS it occurs at only approximately 50 kilometers. The question immediately arises as to what to call the crust in these areas. No logical basis exists for calling the P7 q refractor base of crust in WUS and the P8.5 refractor the equivalent level in EUS. This customary approach may obscure a fundamental and profoundly significant contrast between these two parts of the United States. No logical explanation of the supposed thinning of the crust from east to west exists. The general conclusion of compensation below the crust has been invoked in order to explain the conflict between gravity and seismic data. Real understanding of the relations between these two types of data may result from the realization that the same velocity surface is present in WUS as is termed base of crust in EUS but is approximately 100 kilometers deeper in WUS. Probably, calling the P<sub>8 4</sub> refractor in both areas base of crust would constitute a geophysically meaningful definition.

f.  $P_{8,1}$  - NTS/Northern New Mexico. On large events at NTS, a clear 8.0 - 8.1 arrival is recorded as far as RINM, the intercept being approximately 7.5 seconds. Detailed inspection of records obtained along this profile indicates absence of a 7.7 - 7.9 refractor. Indefinite recordings of  $P_{8,5}$  have been measured at a few hundred kilometers, really good recordings not being obtained until the profile extends into EUS. The  $P_{8,1}$  refractor apparently replaced the  $P_{7,9}$  refractor in this region and is at a somewhat greater depth, the values given above yielding a depth of 36 kilometers. The  $P_{8,5}$  refraction leg observed in Texas and beyond has an intercept of 18 seconds. In light of the fact that the GNOME East profile traversed the same region with an intercept of only 11 seconds, the suggested explanation is that the  $P_{8,5}$  energy observed along this profile for NTS shots is the energy that was following the  $P_{8,1}$  refractor in WUS

## APPLICATION OF IDEAS OF THIS PAPER TO OTHER AREAS

1. General. The functional relation between A/T and  $\Delta$  for a given region quite obviously depends upon the velocity structure of the region. A simple velocity structure such as that of EUS will result in a simple dependence of A/T upon  $\Delta$ . Conversely, the existence of multiple refractors will result in a complex dependence of A/T upon  $\Delta$ . The general suggestion is that Shield or Cratonal areas of low mean elevation will display a simple A/T versus  $\Delta$  relationship while regions of high mean elevation on a regional basis will display complex velocity structures and a complicated dependence of A/T upon  $\Delta$ . Therefore, an investigation of the velocity structure of a region will lead to a basic understanding of the operative A/T versus  $\Delta$  relationships. Such velocity data cannot be based upon an epicentral location and origin time based in turn upon an assumed velocity structure. Thus, only data for explosions are acceptable for such an analysis.

- 2. Europe. The Haslach travel-time curve for Europe allows an immediate prediction of the expected A/T versus  $\Delta$  relationships for this region. The data on which the travel-time curve of Figure 23 is based were obtained as the result of an explosion near Haslach in Southwest Germany (48°16°N 08°07°E). Note that a single phase with uniform apparent velocity was recorded from 200 kilometers to 2000 kilometers, a pattern strikingly similar to that observed in EUS. It seems reasonable that A/T will be found proportional to very nearly the inverse second power of  $\Delta$  in Europe. There seems to be little possibility of a pattern similar to that of WUS. No shadow zone for P phases will be found in this area.
- 3. Asia. The USSR has not released adequate explosion data to permit a prediction of the expected A/T versus  $\Delta$  relationships. Obtaining such data is important as it would greatly advance our understanding of the problems to be expected from observatories at specific localities within the area of interest.

## CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Contrary to the curve presented by Richter  $^6$ ,  $P_n$  amplitudes in WUS in the range 1000-1700 kilometers are not obeying a shadow zone interpretation as envisaged by Gutenberg. There is no evidence for a broad interval of several hundred kilometers in which P amplitudes are very small. There is a large jump in amplitude at approximately 1000 kilometers due to  $P_{8.5}$  becoming the first arrival. For some uncertain reason, the P8.5 refractor and associated refracted phase were never recognized in WUS by Gutenberg and the high amplitudes of this phase were either missed or misinterpreted. Signal levels decrease continuously from approximately 1000 kilometers outwards except for one or more comparatively small jumps in amplitude associated with the beginning of the first arrival of deeper refractions. These small steps in amplitude (such as from  $P_{8,5}$  to  $P_{10,5}$ ) cannot be termed shadow zone phenomena in the Gutenberg sense or in any real sense. Measurement of P amplitudes in the range 1000-2000 kilometers are more desirable than in any more distant.
- 2. In EUS, amplitudes increase continuously from 1000 kilometers to the epicenter. There is total absence of any phenomenon which could be interpreted as a shadow zone for P.
- 3. In WUS, the amplitude discontinuity in the neighborhood of 1000 kilometers is abrupt and associated with the first arrival of a deeper refraction (P8.5), replacing the weaker P7.9 event. The P7.9 event can occasionally be followed as second arrival beyond

Richter, loc. cit. and Figure 100, this report.

the point where  $P_{8.5}$  becomes first arrival. The  $P_{8.5}$  arrival in WUS appears to obey essentially the same decay law with distance as does the  $P_{8.5}$  refraction in EUS.

- 4. The A/T versus  $\Delta$  table used in the VELA shot reports is grossly inaccurate at distances out to  $15^{\circ}-20^{\circ}$  for virtually all events, even for WUS. Errors in magnitude estimates at single stations of as high as 1.5 magnitude units occur when this law is employed. Extensive confirmation of this failure of the shot report table or for any single curve for both explosions and earthquakes is contained in this report. All previously studied explosions and earthquakes plus several additional earthquakes have been recomputed according to the scheme proposed in this paper. Romney's procedure for computing m for small events by use of P7.9 data was calibrated against teleseismic data of large events and thus avoided the inaccuracies of the shot report computations.
- 5. A/T data for the  $P_g$  phase in WUS are as useful and as meaningful for magnitude computations for both earthquakes and explosions as are the refracted P phases (see Appendix).
- 6. Magnitude computations based on refracted phases can be made essentially independent of distance by proper calibration of the crust and by establishing the correct energy partition function for the several phases generated. Such energy partition functions appear quite variable and must be influenced by focal and near-focus conditions.
- 7. Epicenter location of unknown events by use of regional and near-regional data will be markedly improved only when crustal models expressing the multiple refractors present in a region are used as the basis of analysis. Any effort to attach regional corrections must fail in general application.
- 8. Analysis of the amplitude/period data of any region in the range 200-2100 kilometers is only meaningful after elucidation of crustal structure and establishment of the general energy partition function and decay rates of each phase. It appears probable that velocity structure will characterize decay rates. Thus, the Haslach traveltime curve for Europe, based upon surface explosion data, is very similar to that of EUS. The implication is that mg.5 may be applicable to A/T data of European seismic events in the regional and near-regional distances but only investigation of A/T data of Europe will indicate the actual relationships. The situation in the USSR is not certain and will not be clarified until data obtained by observing Russian explosions become available.

APPENDIX: ANALYSIS OF Pg DATA

- 1. General.  $P_{6.0}$  ( $P_g$ ) was observed widely and well throughout WUS to distances of 1000 kilometers with a velocity of 6.0 kilometers per second. Pg gives rise to higher A/T values than other P phases in WUS. In many cases it can be recognized by waveform character even though, at other than very near stations, it is a second arrival. In WUS it decays as the third power of the epicentral distance and its velocity is very near 6.0 kilometers per second. It does not occur beyond WUS and loses definition beyond about 1200 kilometers in any azimuth from NTS. One wishes to know whether one can interpret  $P_{g}$  A/T data in a magnitude sense to the extent that the Pn phases have been successfully interpreted. If so, two useful and significant results accrue. Firstly, one can obtain confirmation of our proposed A/T versus  $\Delta$ versus mb. interpretive scheme from an independent phase. Secondly, such a uniformity of behavior would imply one could use Pg for estimation of magnitude of earthquakes with as much or more reliability than the Pn phases as the scheme of identification of Pn phases for an unknown epicenter may prove difficult while one can generally identify  $P_{g}$  by record character. If the beginning of  $P_{g}$  is measurable to within two or three seconds, better epicenters probably could be obtained by use of this phase than by use of the  $P_n$  phases in WUS.  $P_n$  phases as first arrivals are timed to a fraction of a second but the proper classification of the phase measured may be so uncertain and the crustal velocity structure assumed so inaccurate that one can introduce errors of several seconds into the calculations of epicenters. When using  $P_g$  in WUS an extremely simple but valid model can be used for computation purposes.
- 2. Analysis of  $P_g$  Data. The procedure followed here begins by estimating the best value of A/T at 500 kilometers from the A/T versus  $\Delta$  plots for  $P_g$  in the shot reports. See Figures 103 through 106 for examples of A/T versus  $\Delta$  plots of  $P_g$  data. We plot these (A/T)500 values against radiochemical yield in Figure 107 and against mb. values of this report in Figure 108. Compare Figures 107 and 108 to see that the (A/T)500 values of  $P_g$  display a linear relationship to the magnitude values of this report, being independent of shot medium. These two figures confirm the usefulness of  $P_g$  amplitude data for estimating magnitude and support the relative magnitude determinations of this report. The resulting  $P_{6.0}$  equations are:

$$m_{6.0} = 1.28 + 1.14 \log (A/T)_{500}$$
 (13)

$$m_{6.0} = -8.00 + 1.14 \log A/T + 3.42 \log \Delta$$
 (14)

The curves of Figure 100 for  $P_{7.9}$  can be used for  $P_{6.0}$  if magnitude values are decreased by 1.0 units. In other words,  $P_{6.0}$  gives A/T values 10 times those of  $P_{7.9}$  at the same distance.

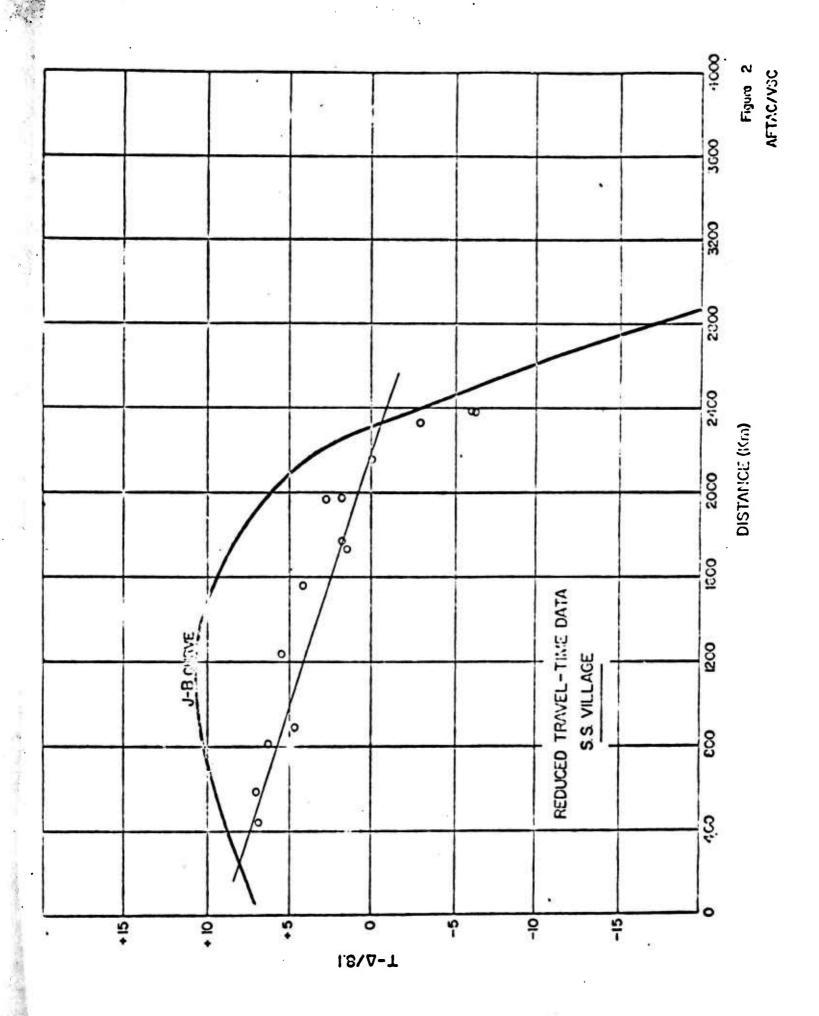
3. Pg Data for WUS Earthquakes. A/T data for the Pg phase are available for several earthquakes of WUS. The computed m<sub>6.0</sub> values follow:

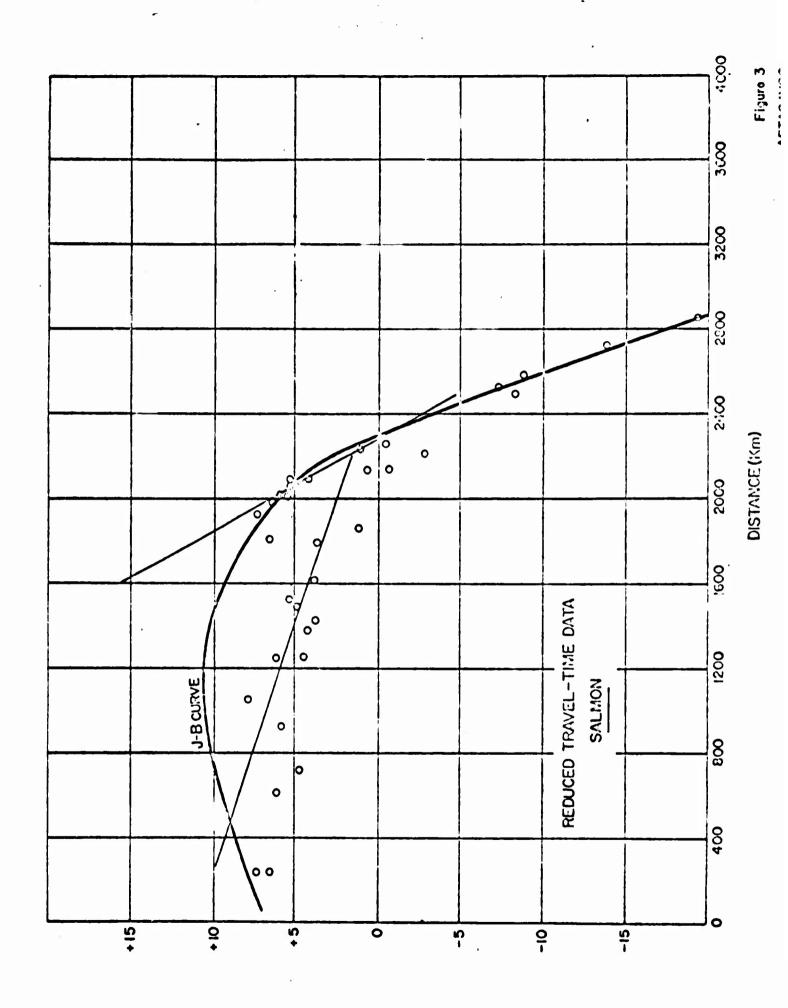
| Earthquakes                  | (A/T) <sub>500</sub> | <sup>т</sup> ь • | <sup>m</sup> 6.0 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Colona (5 Feb 1962)          | 40                   | 3.1              | 3.11             |
| Hebgen (25 Feb 1962)         | 50                   | 3.2              | 3.22             |
| Cache Creek (30 Aug 1962)    | 2500*                | 4.3              | 5.16             |
| Cache Creek A/S (5 Sep 1962) | 500*                 | 4.1              | 4.36             |
| Bridgeport (5 Apr 1962)      | 42                   | 3.03             | 3.29             |
| Fallon (20 Jul 1962)         | 240                  | 4.4              | 4.16             |

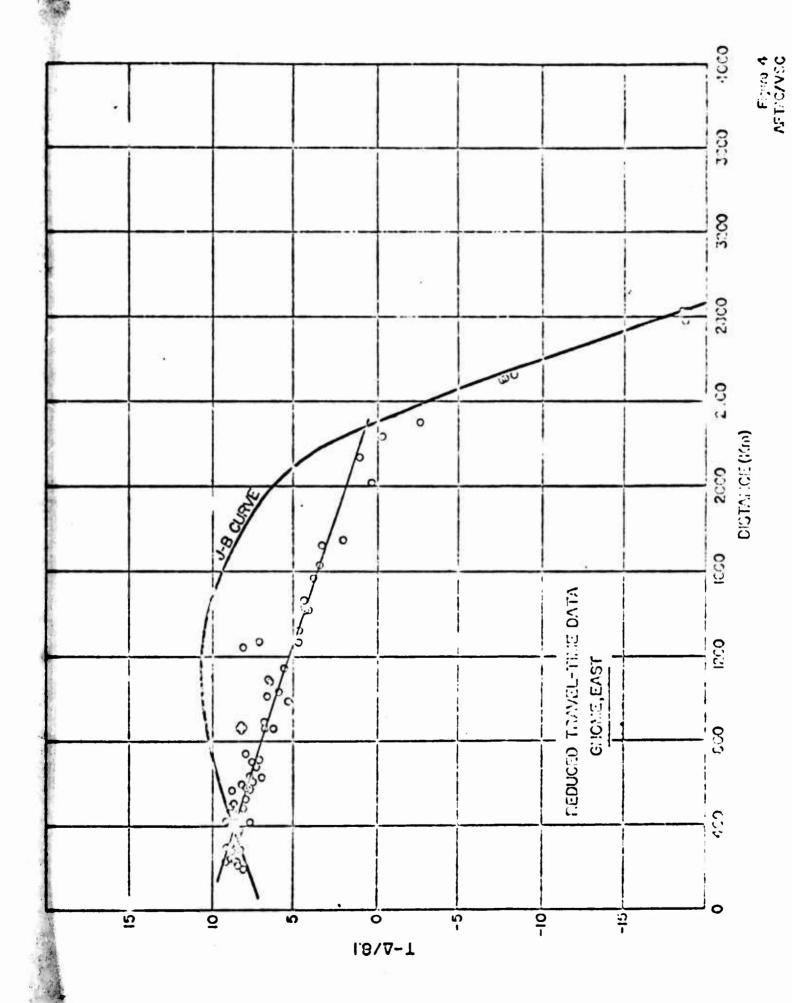
<sup>\*</sup>Based on WUS data.

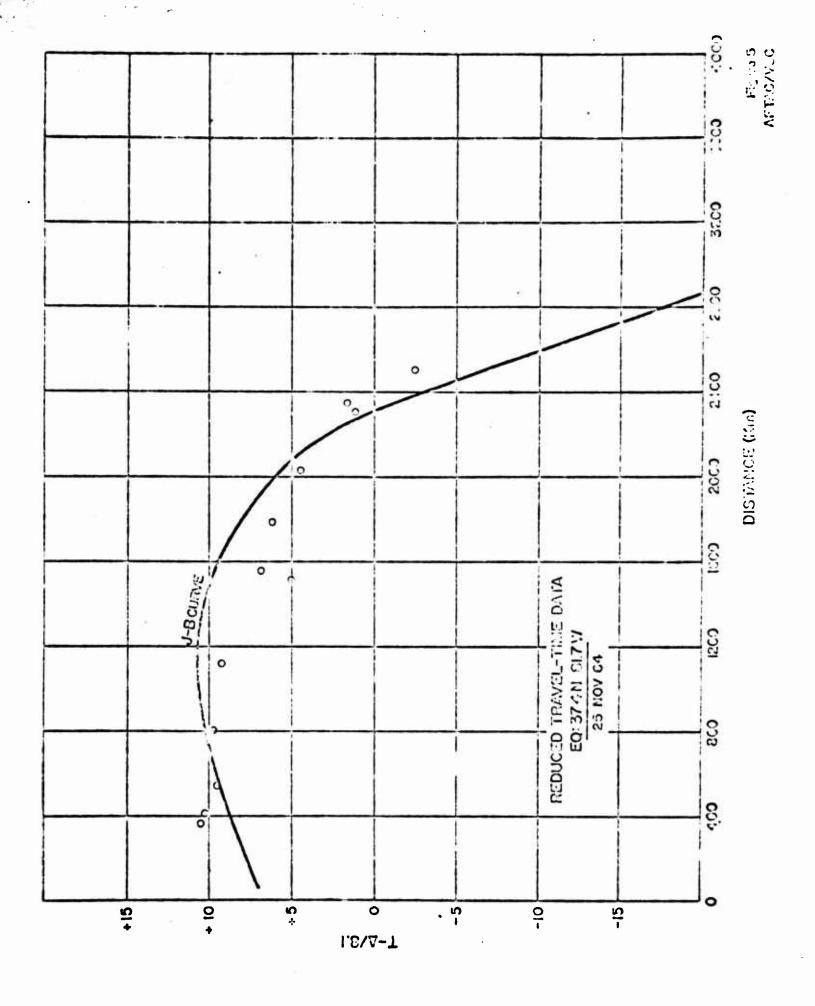
The  $P_g$  data demonstrate their usefulness for the estimation of magnitude of WUS carthquakes. Remember that we derived this scheme for  $P_g$  by calibration against  $m_{ts}$  values of P phases and noting the linear relationship between log Y and log  $(A/T)_{500}$ . Therefore, the agreement at magnitudes above 4 occurs independently of  $P_n$  values inside 2000 kilometers and the agreement at lower magnitudes depends upon control other than previously computed magnitude values.

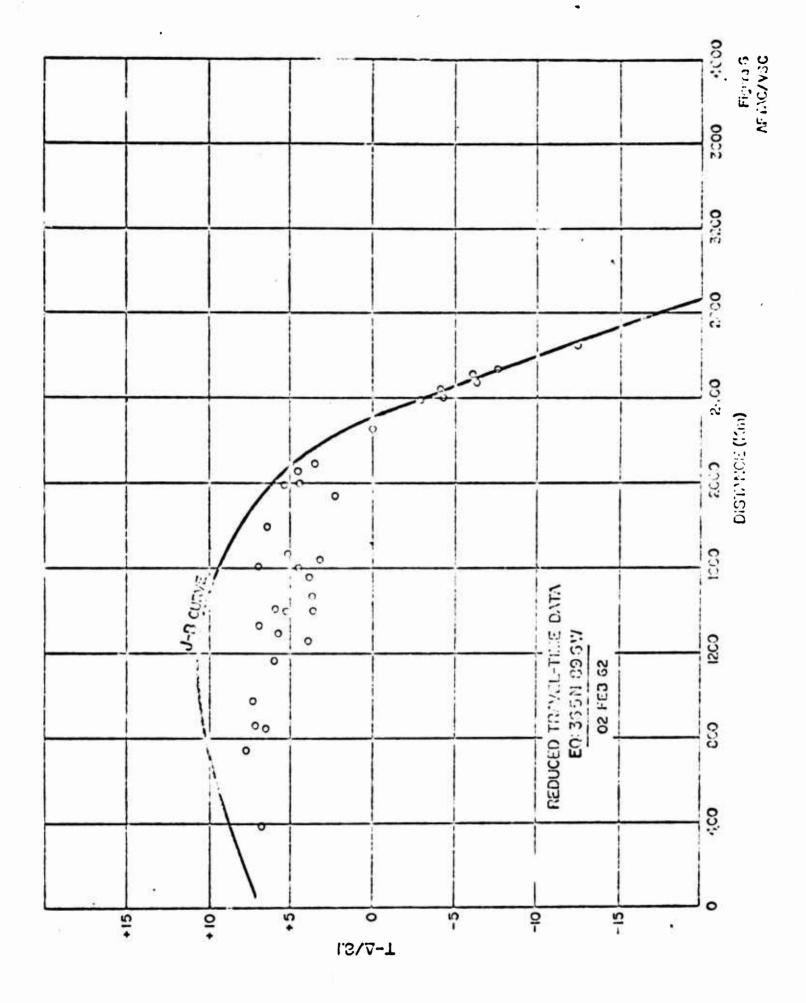
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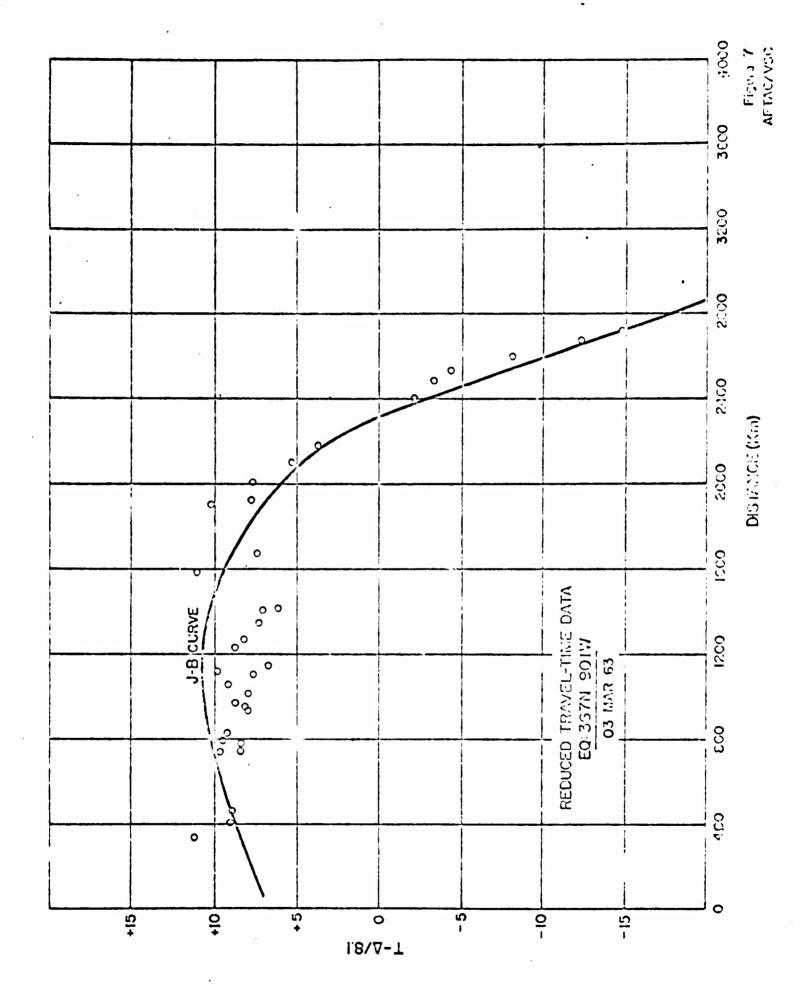












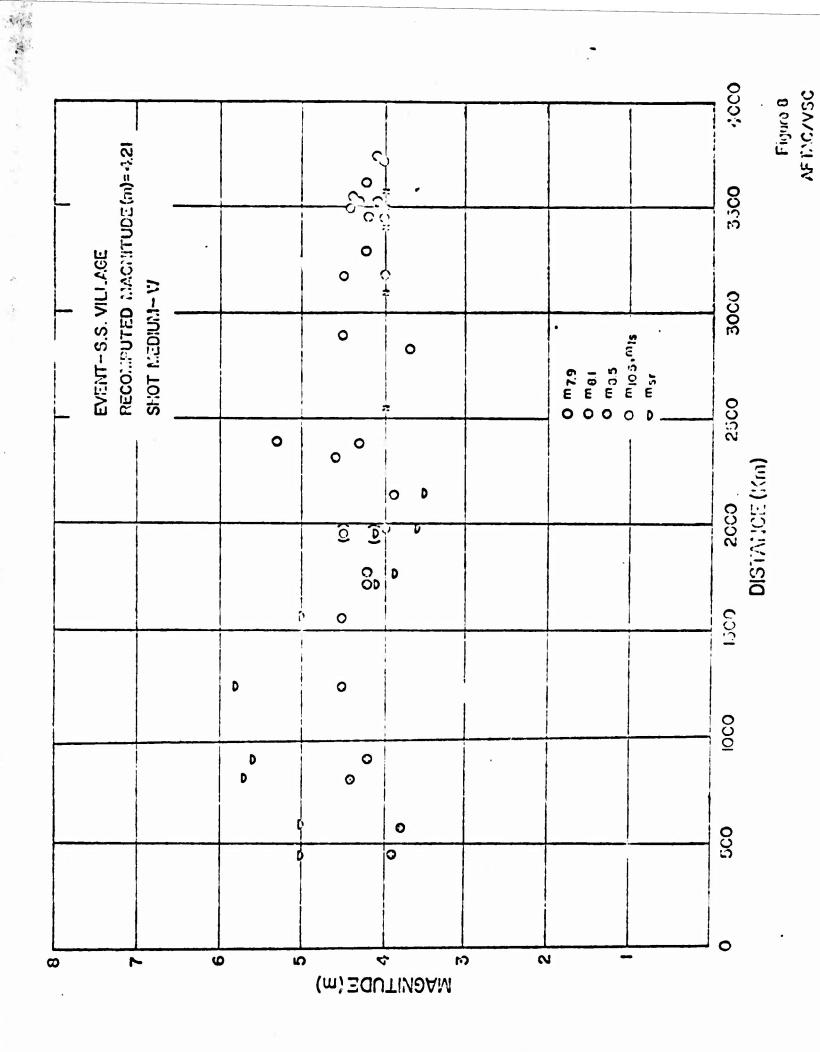
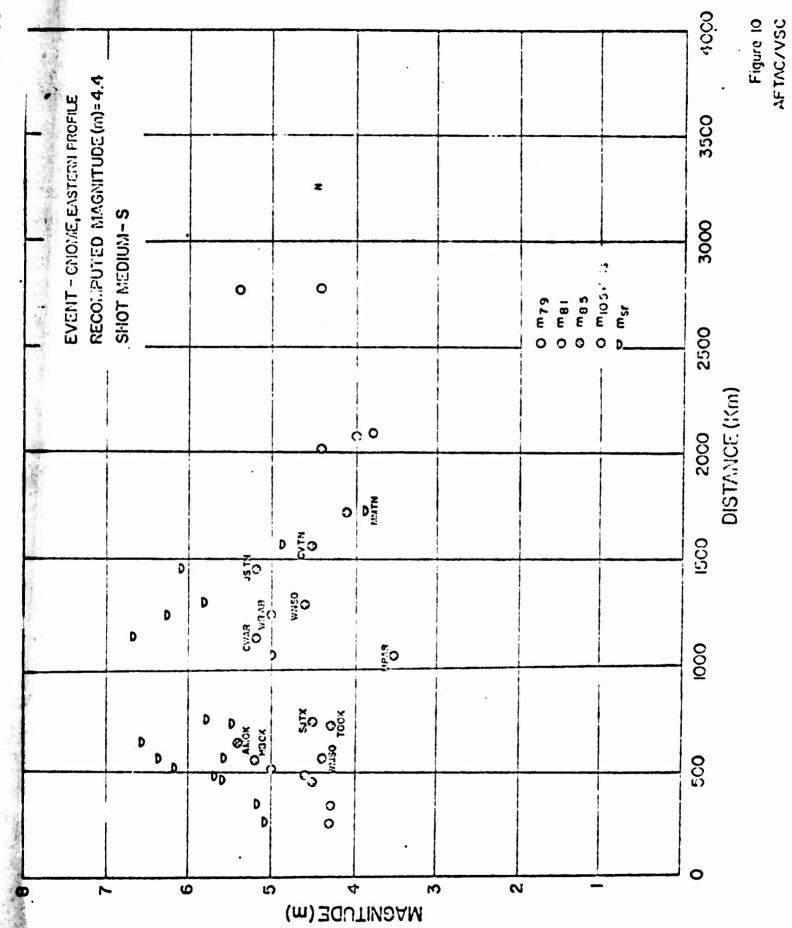


Figure 9



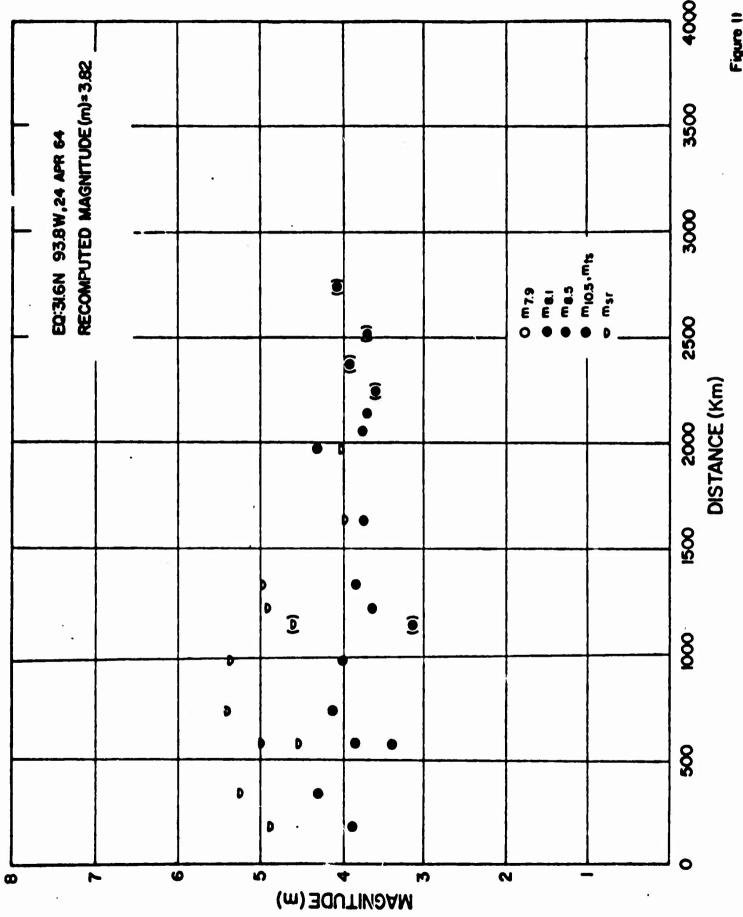
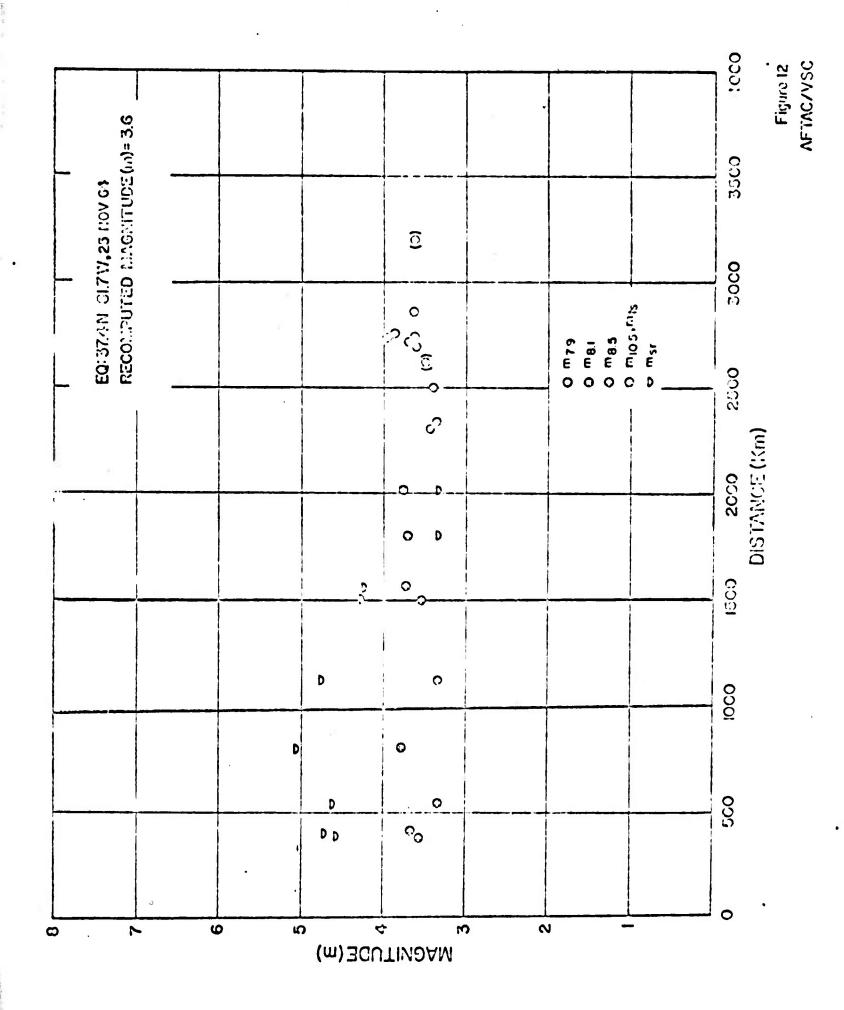
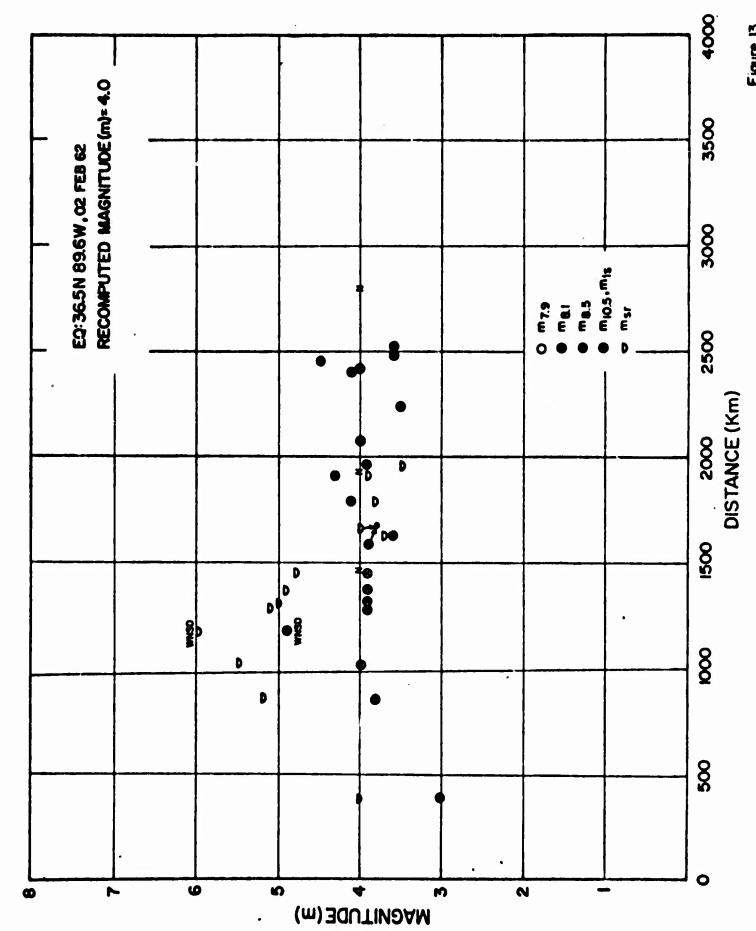
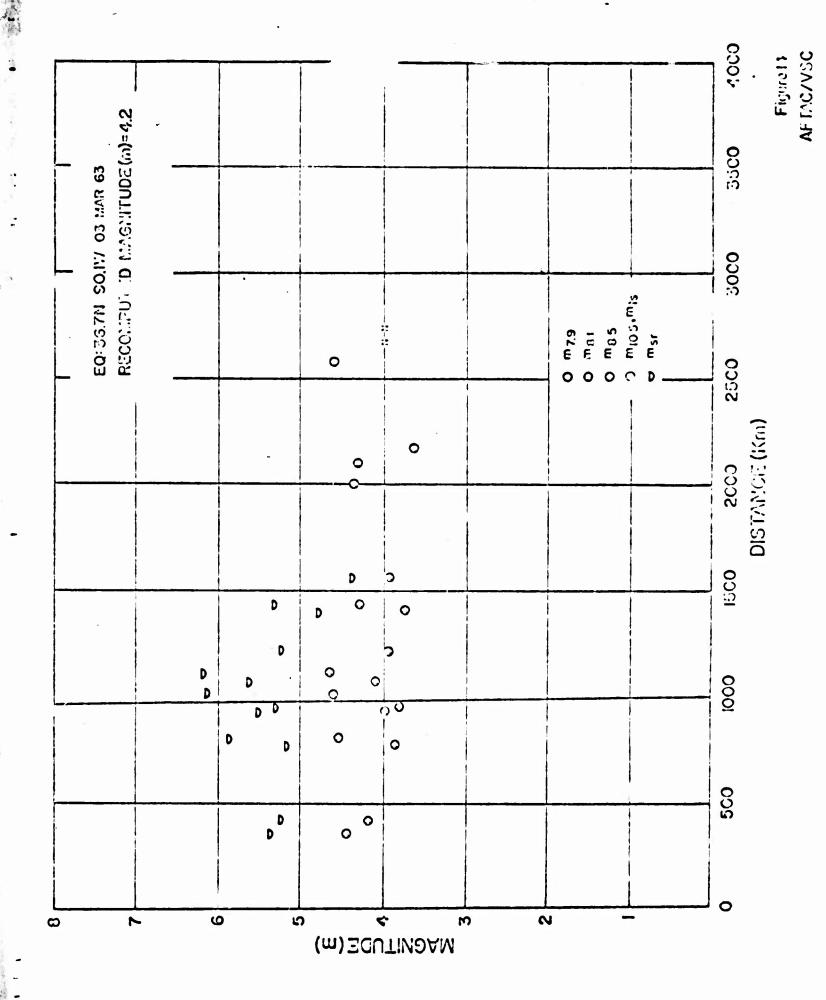


Figure 11
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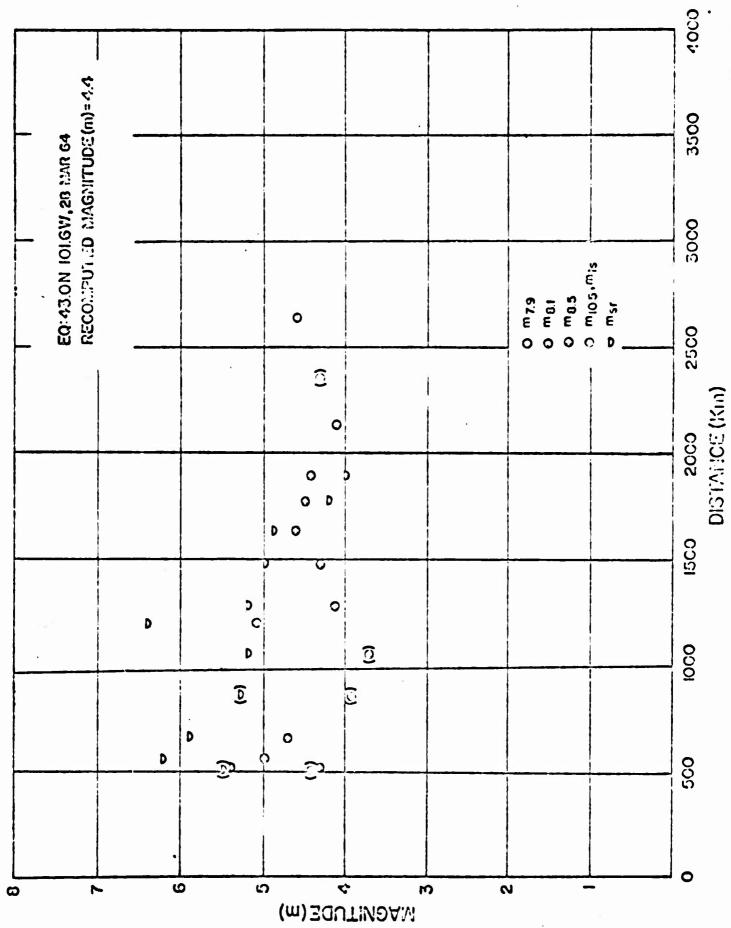
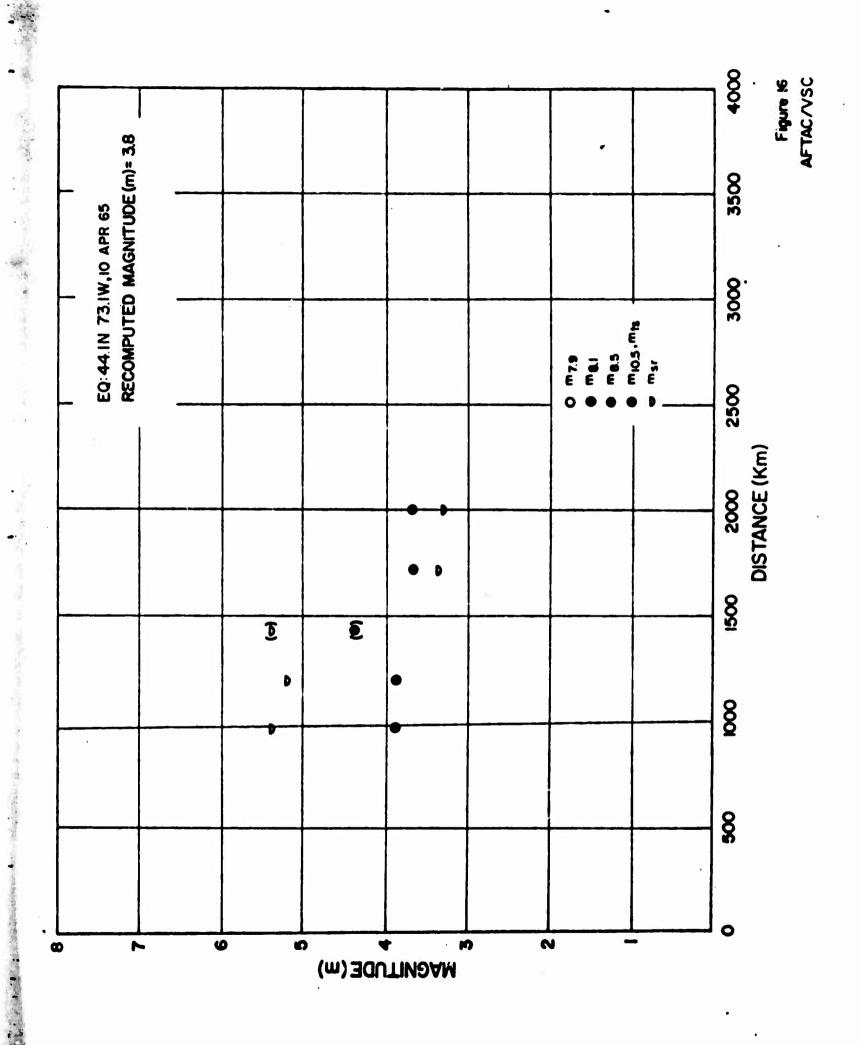
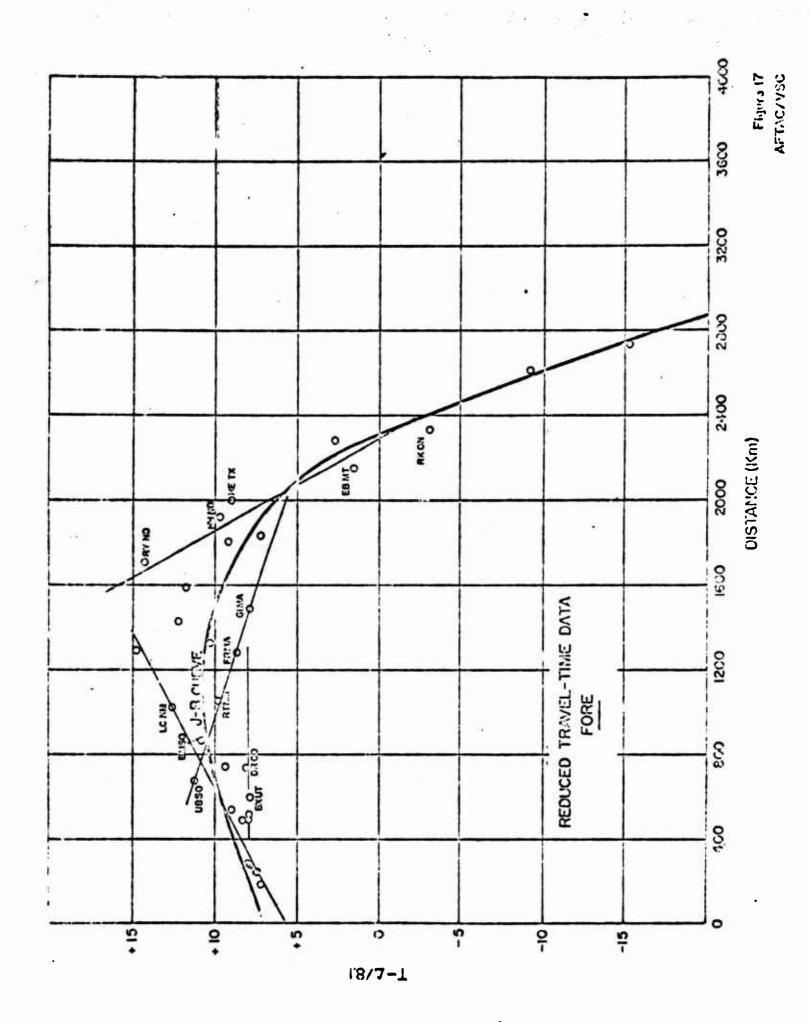
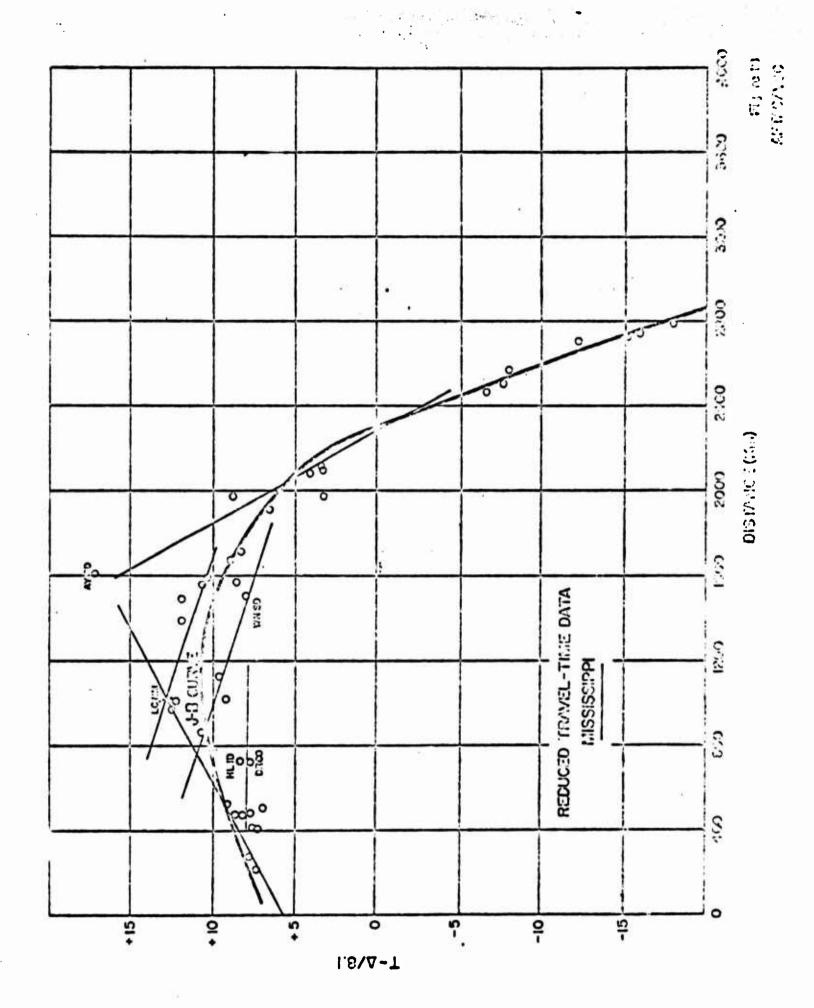
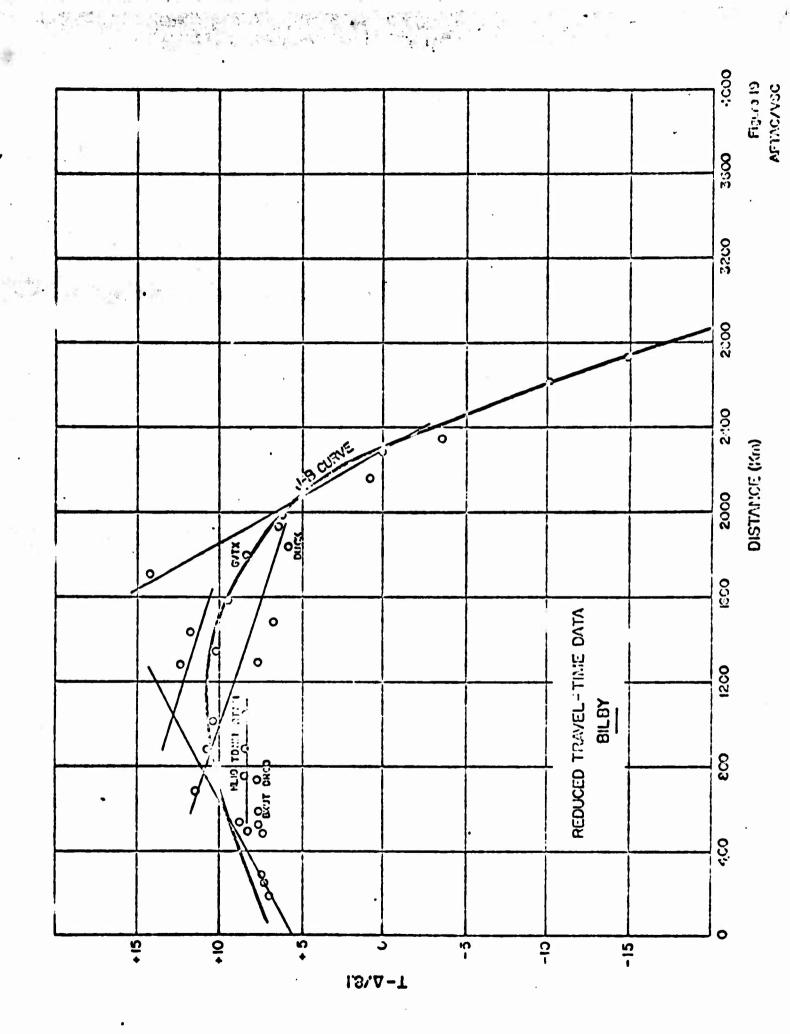


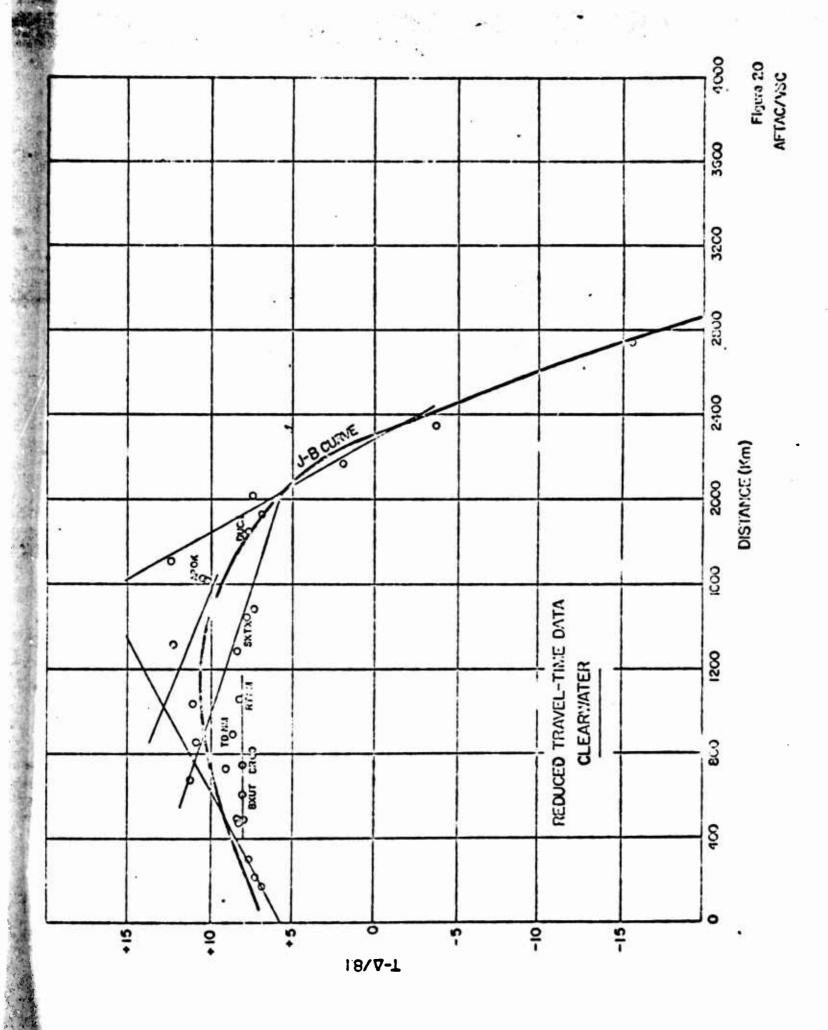
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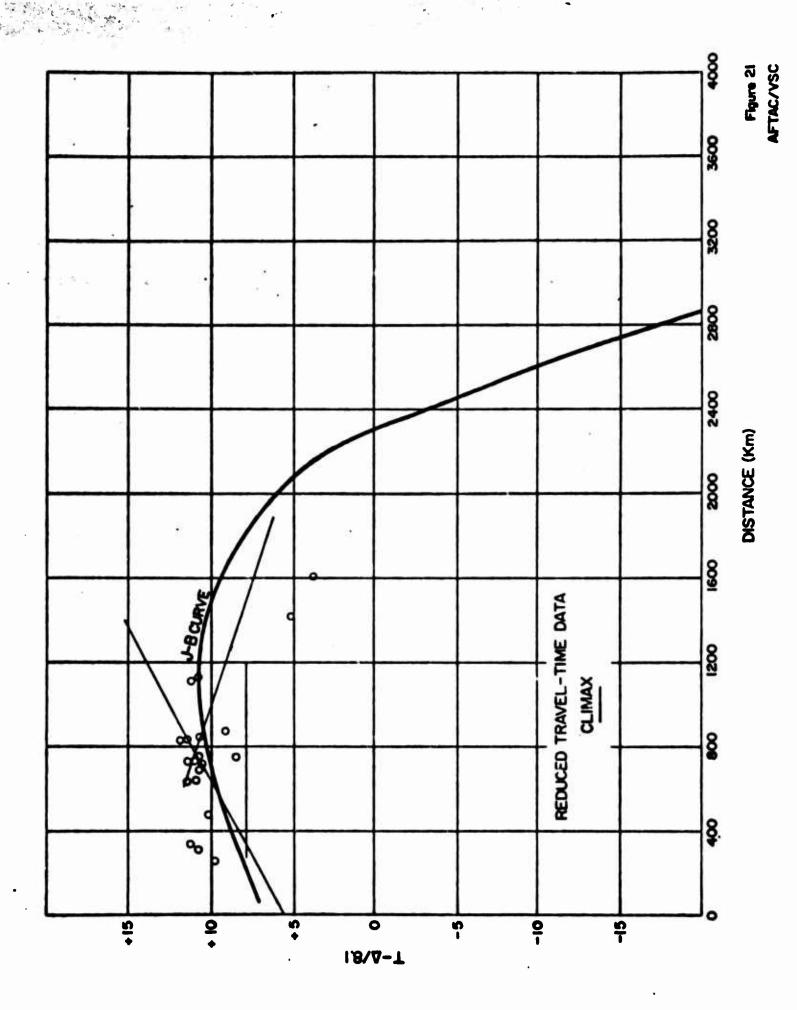


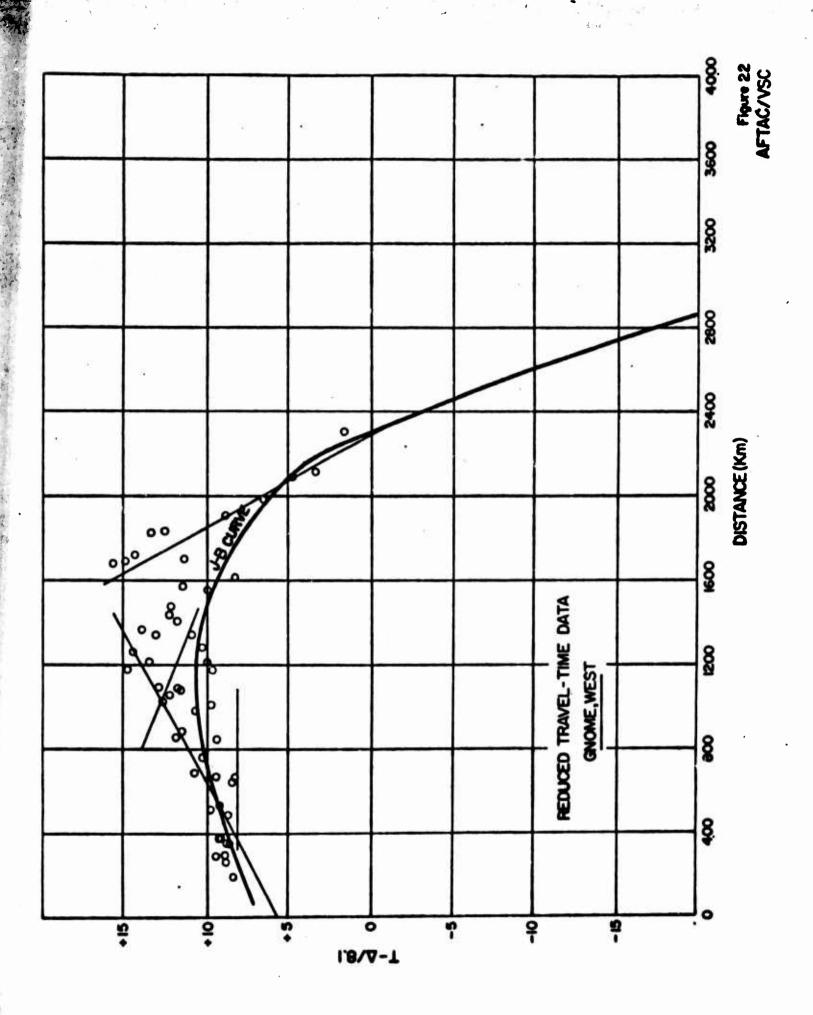


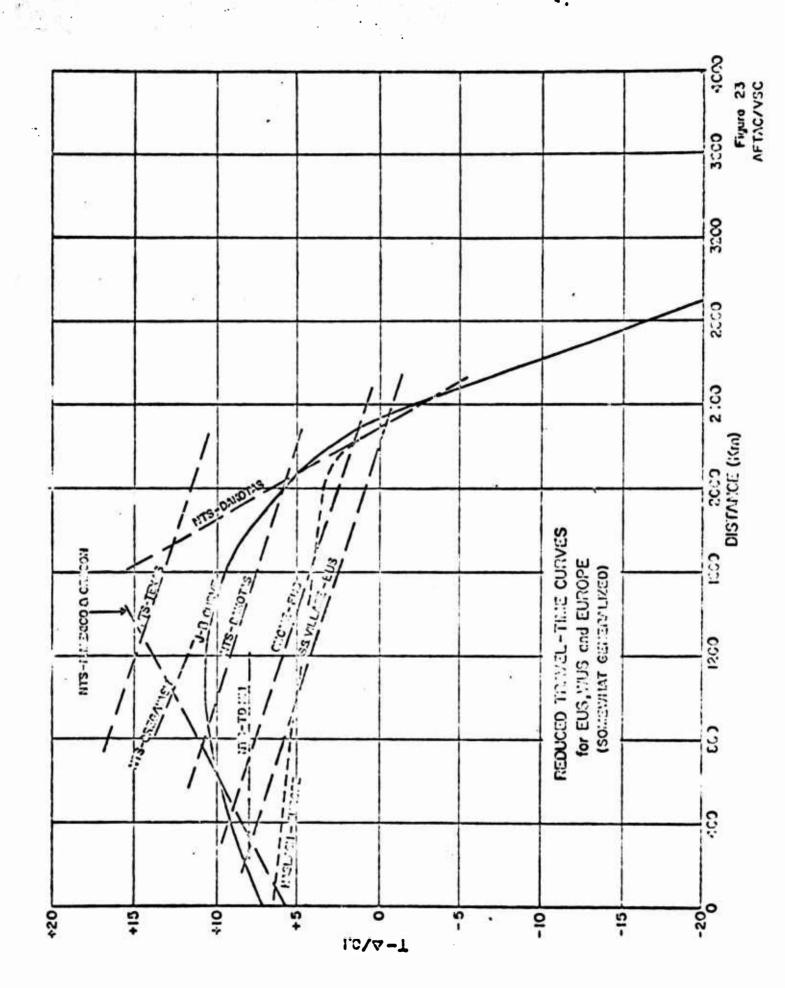


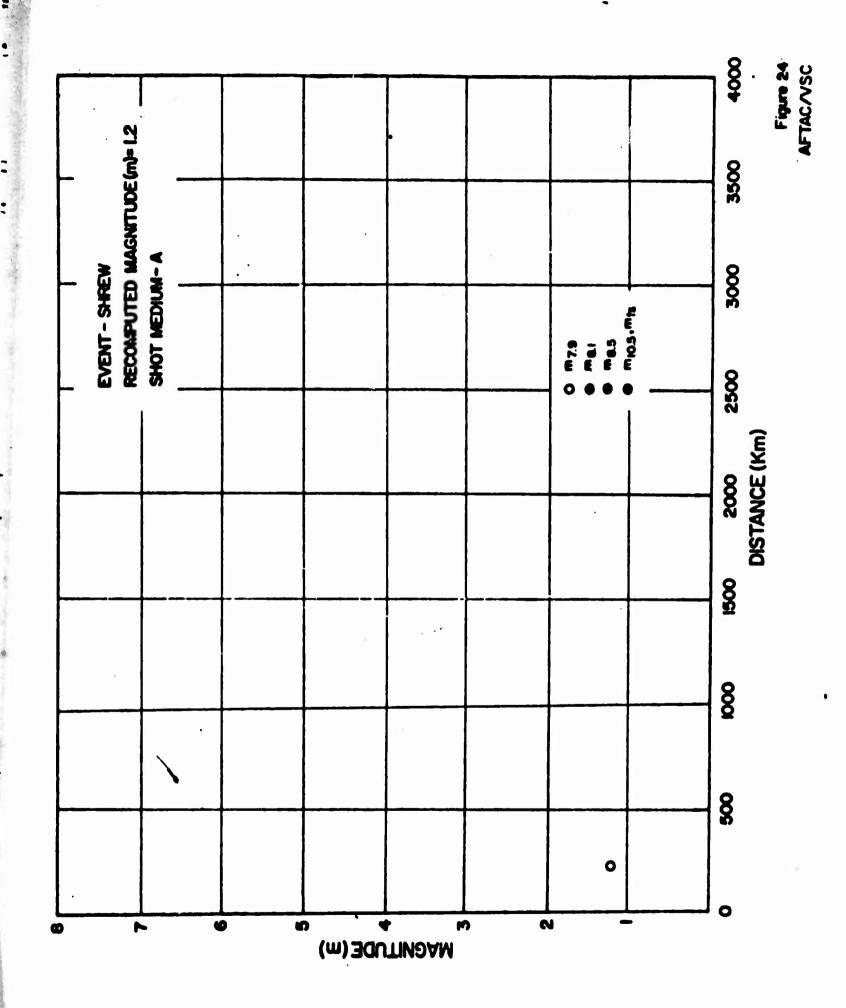


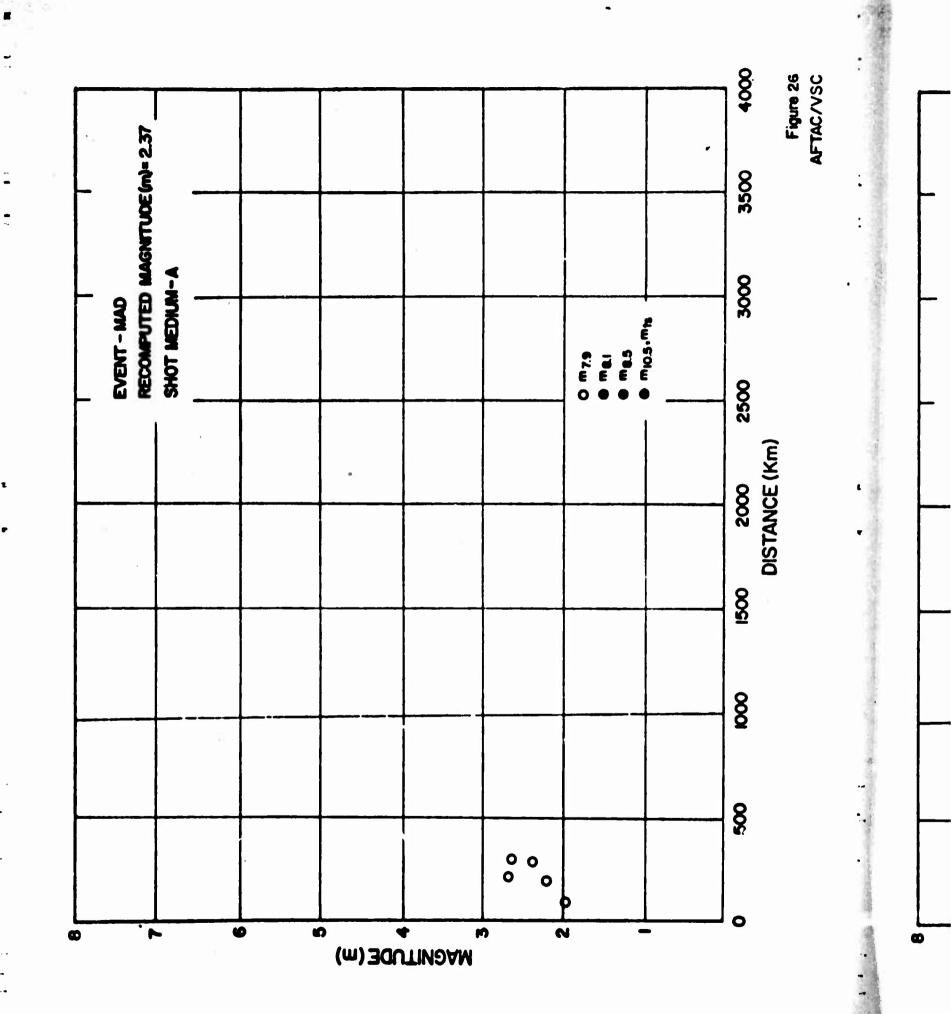


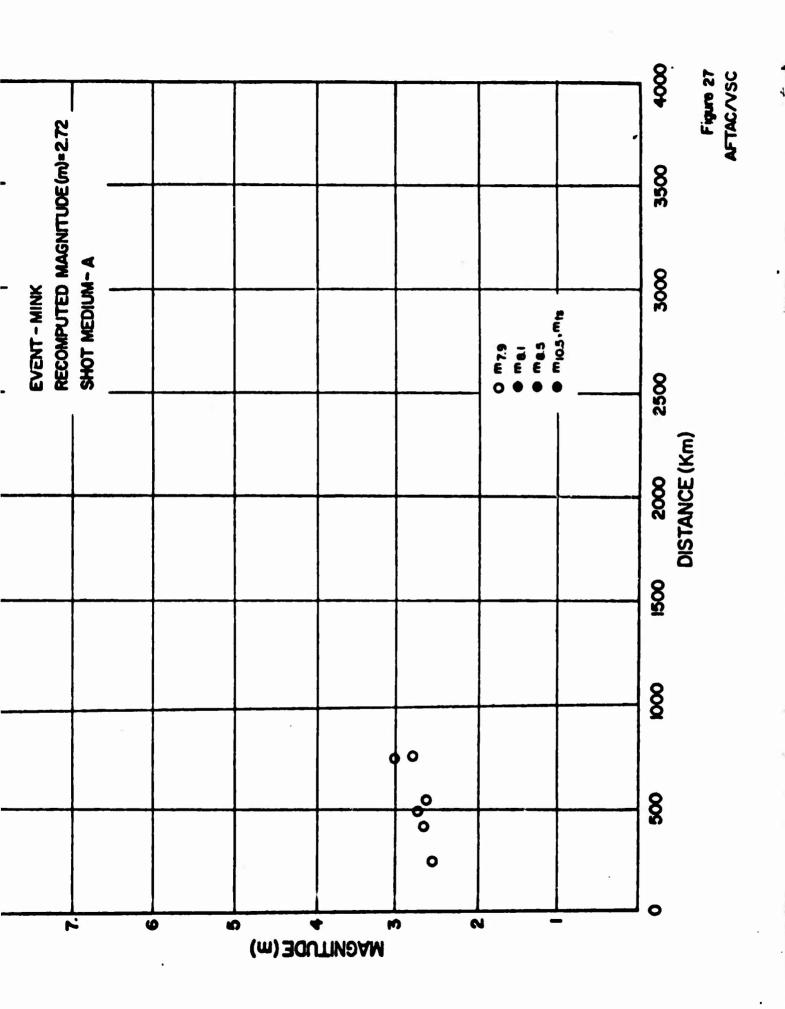












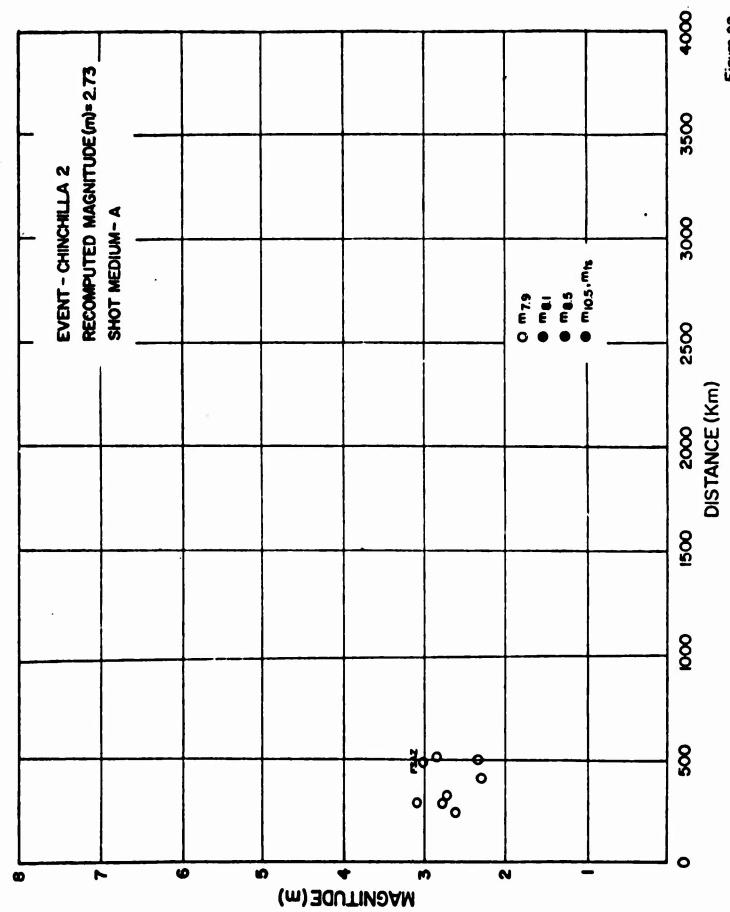
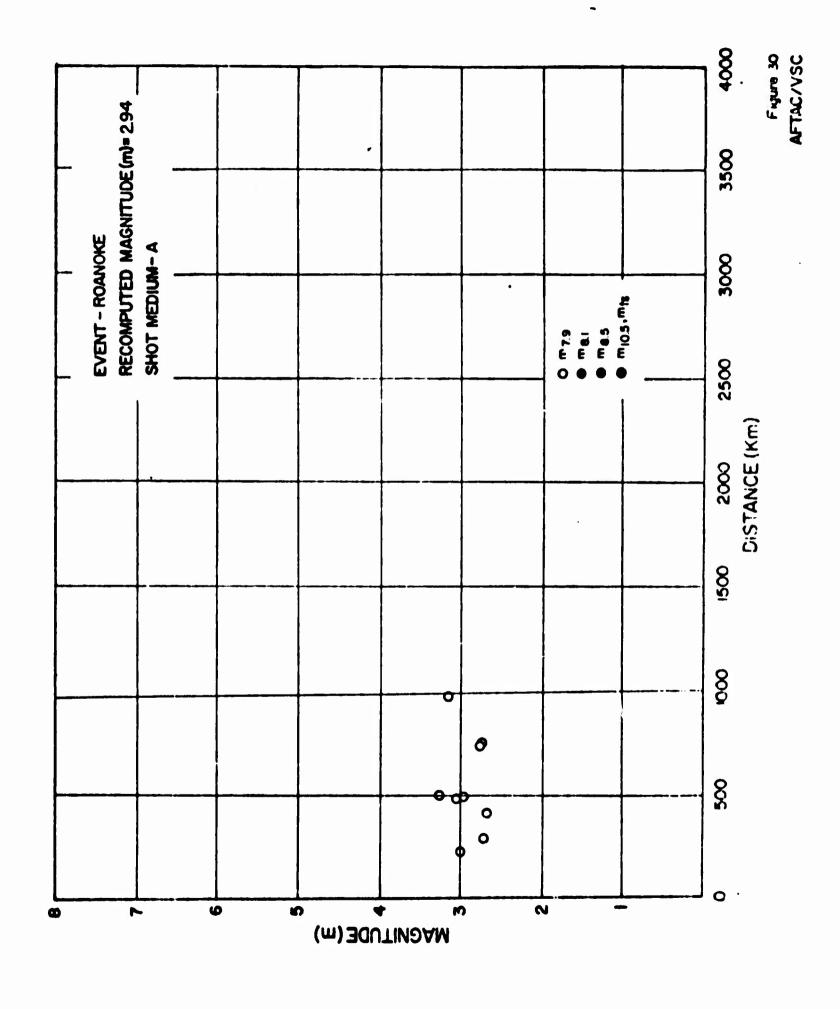
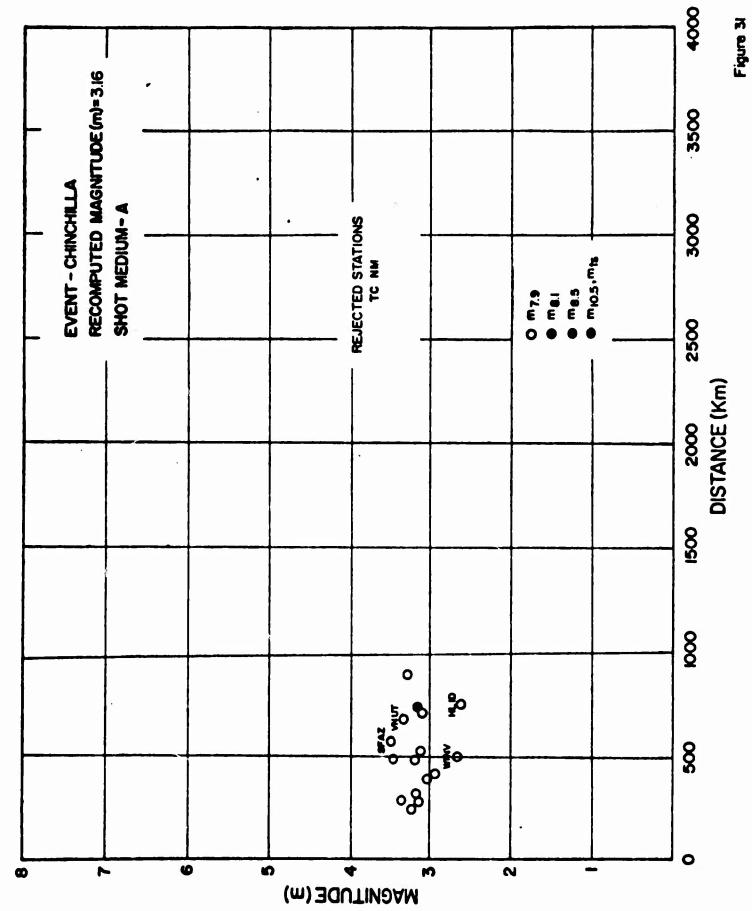


Figure 29 AFTAC/VSC





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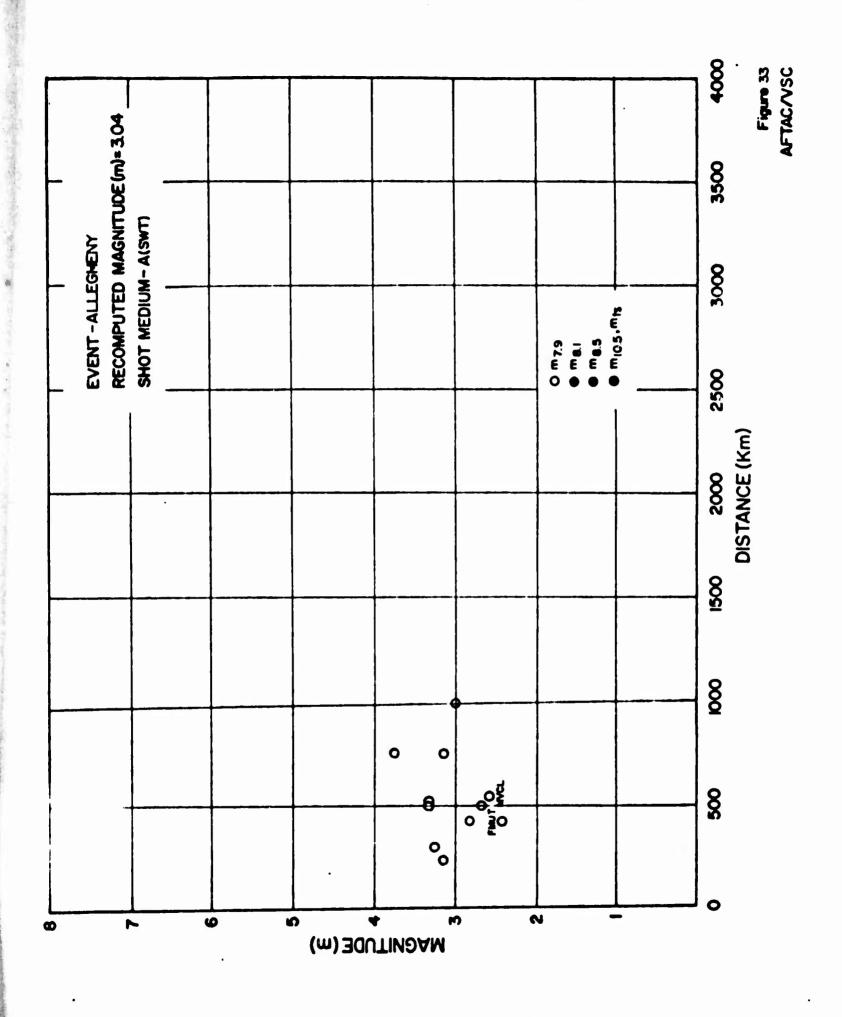
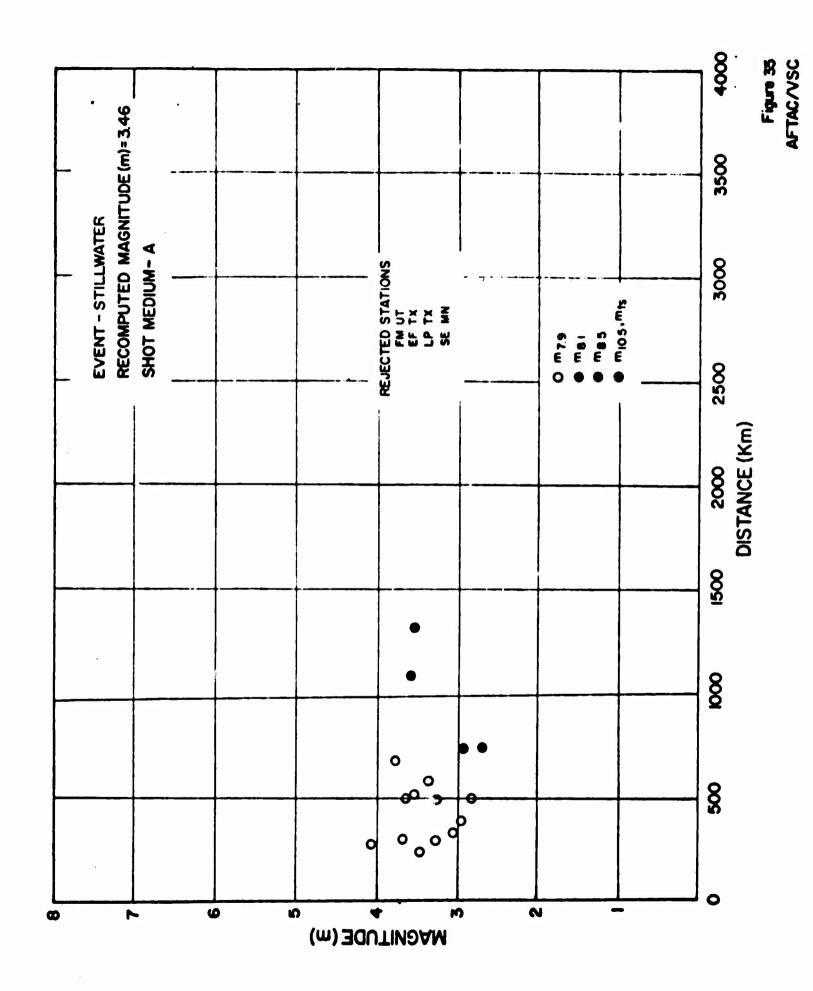


Figure 34
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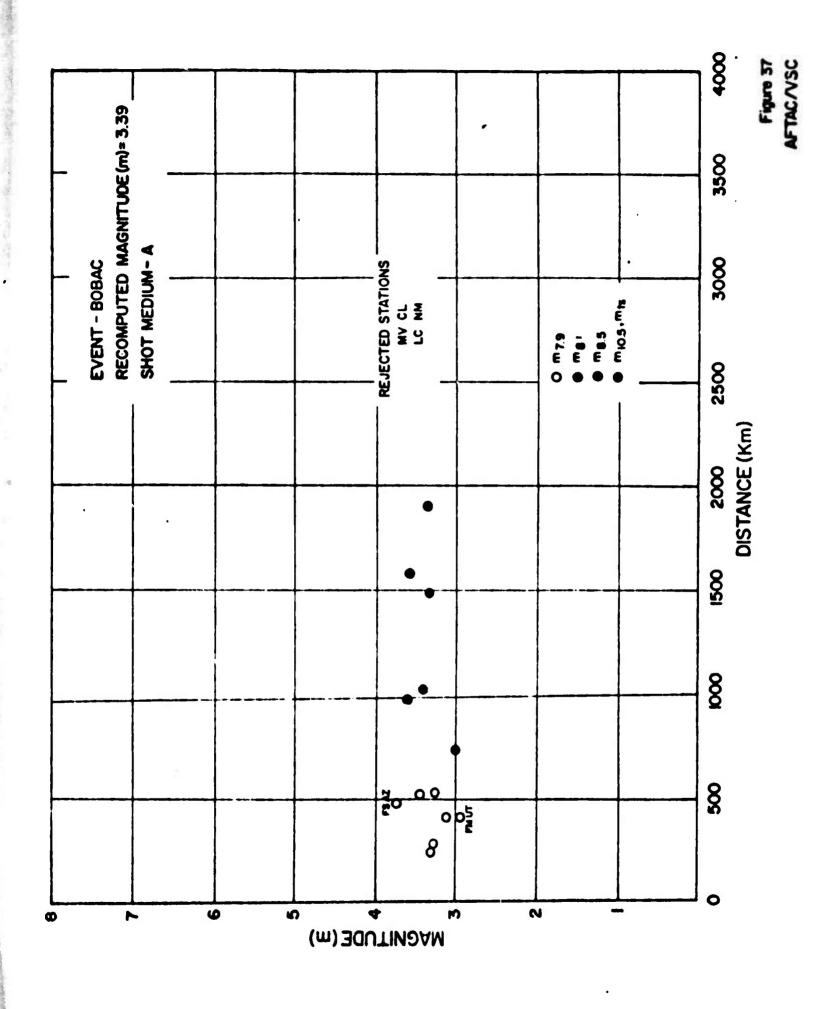
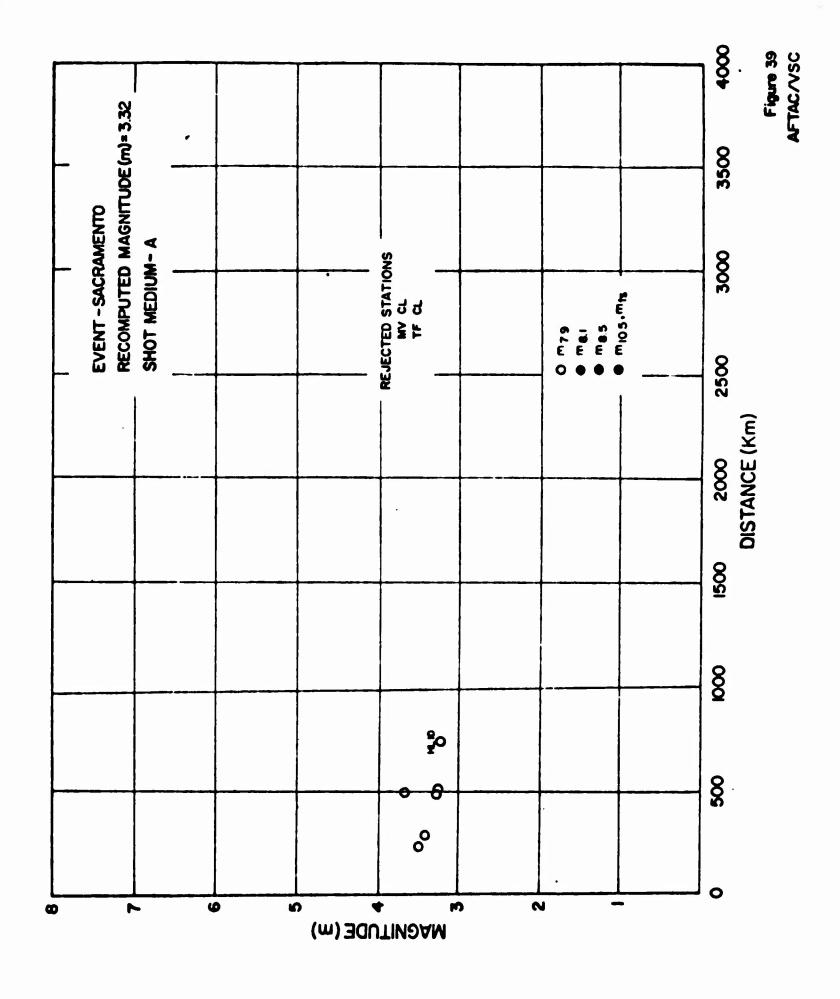
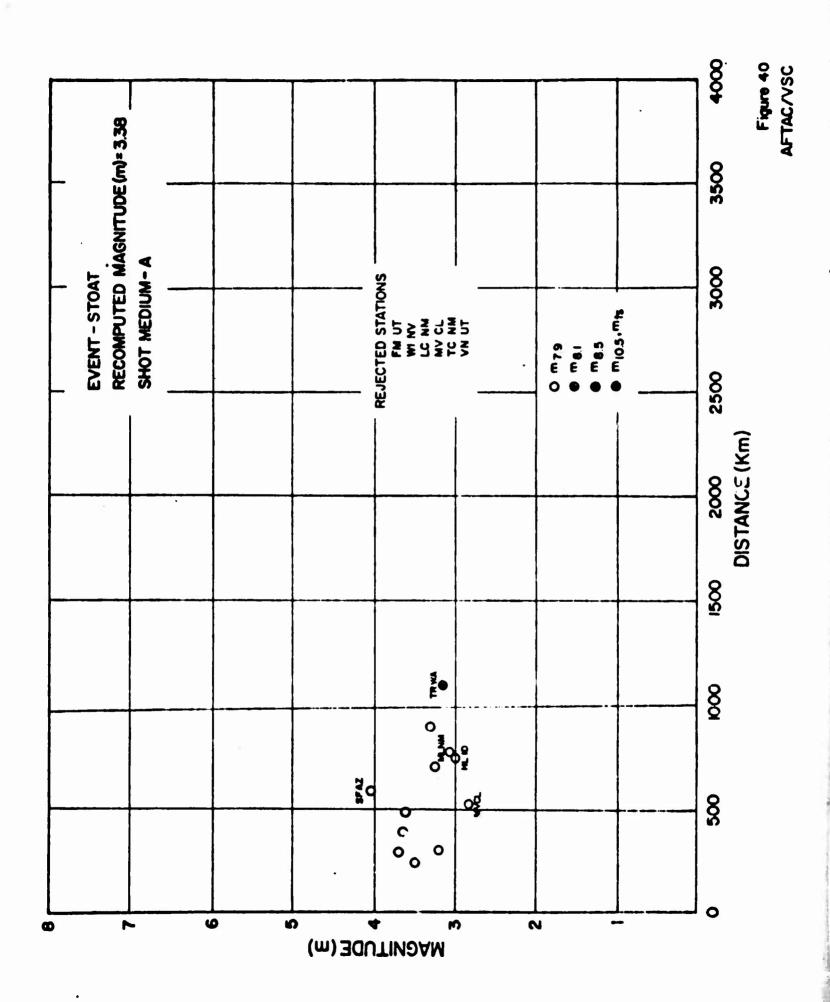
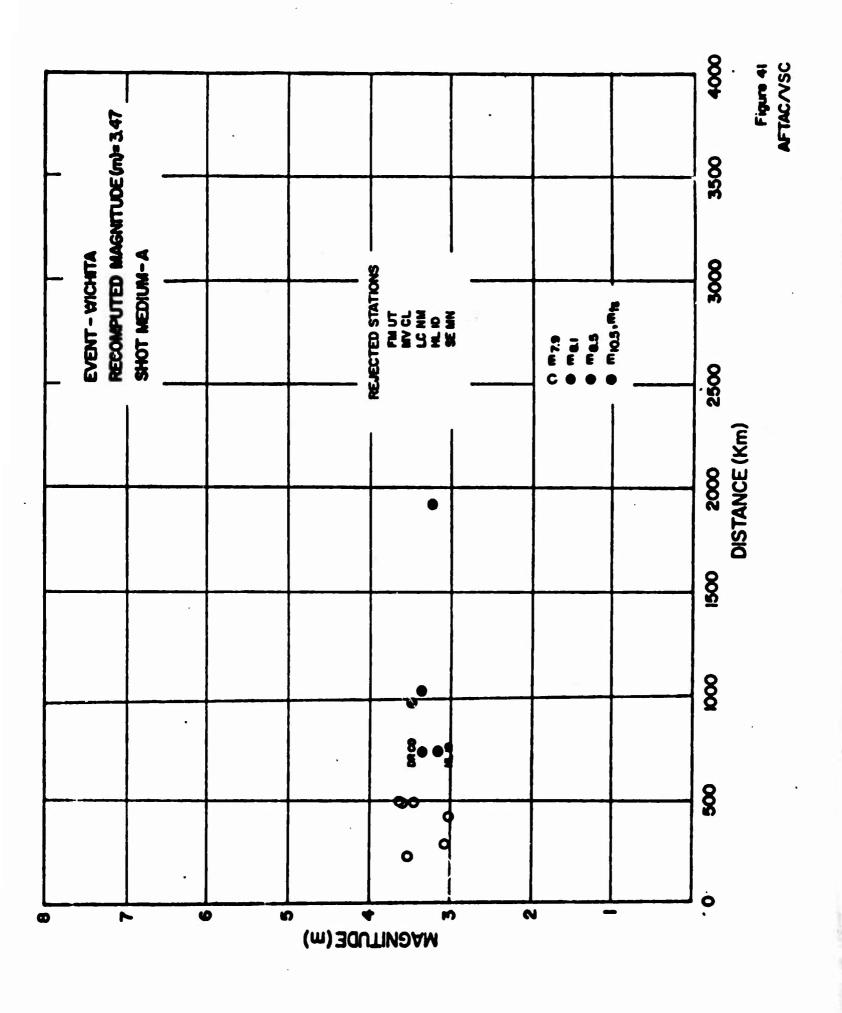
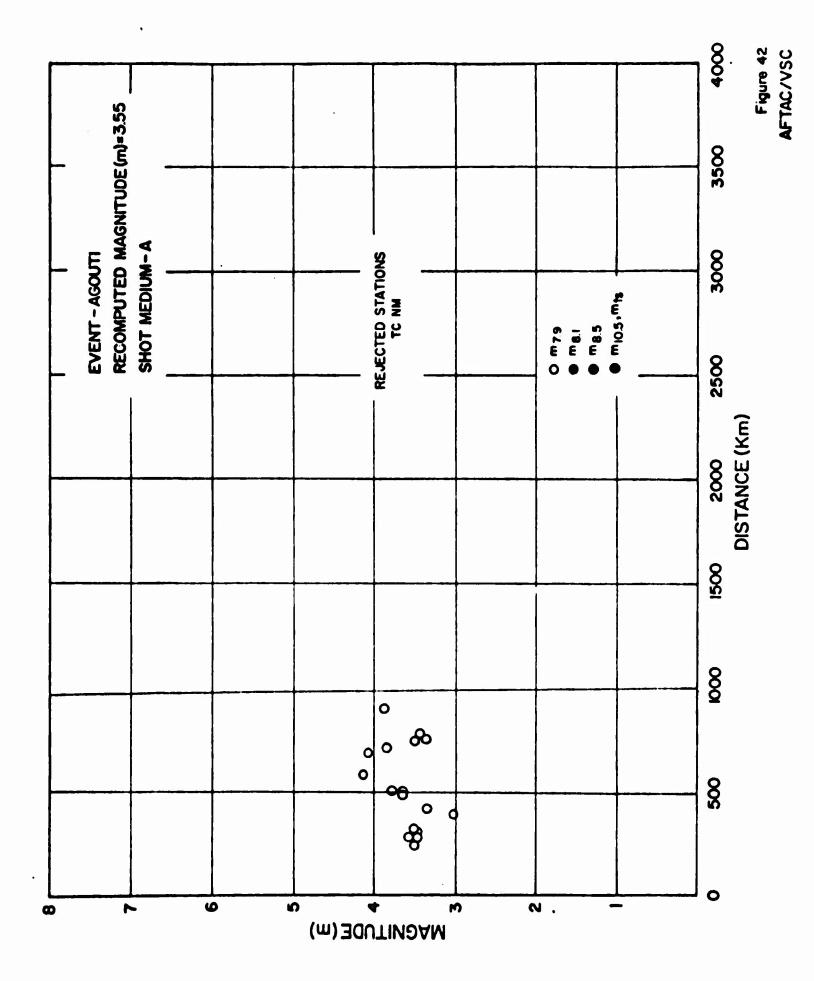


Figure 38
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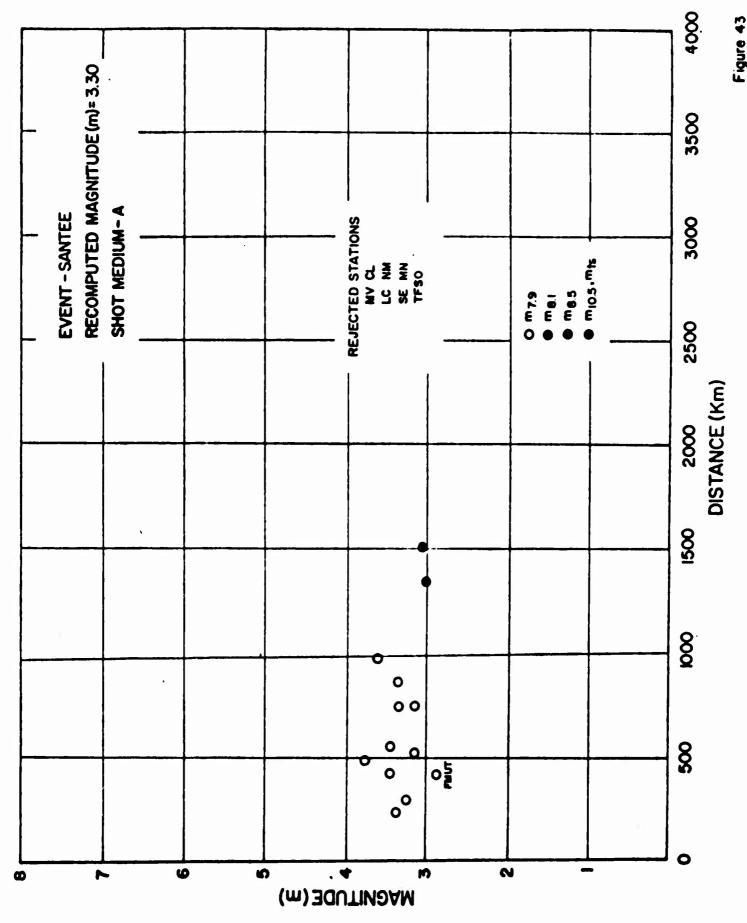
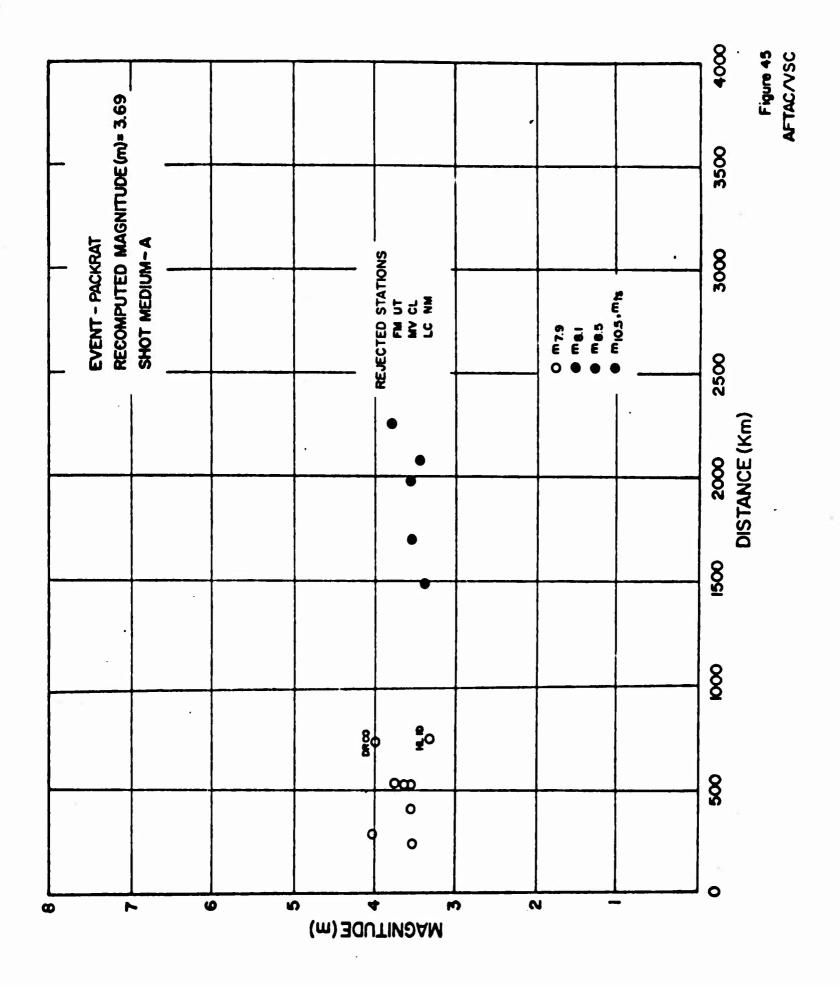


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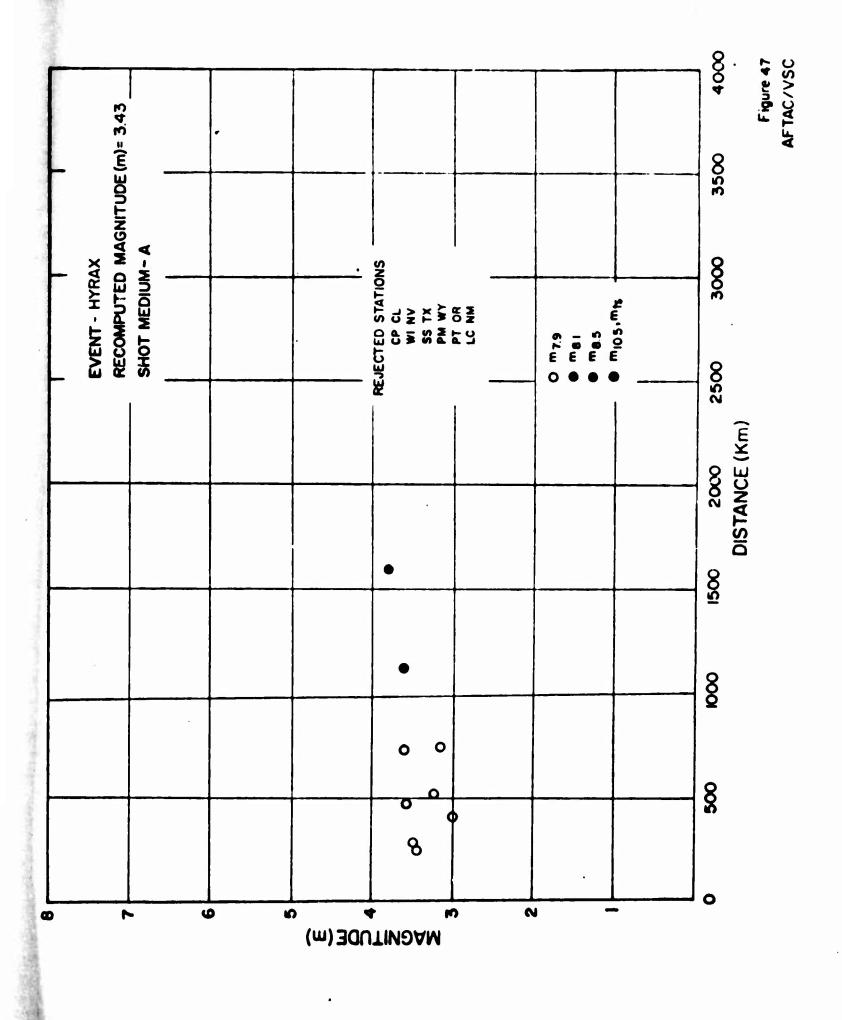
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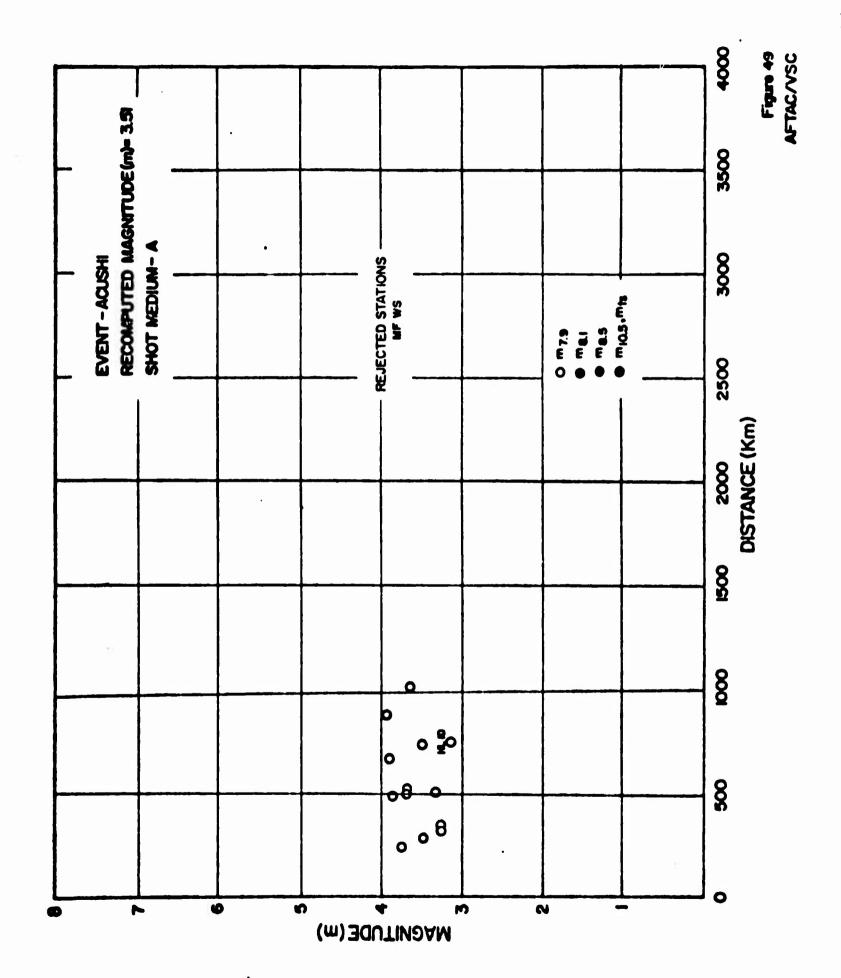
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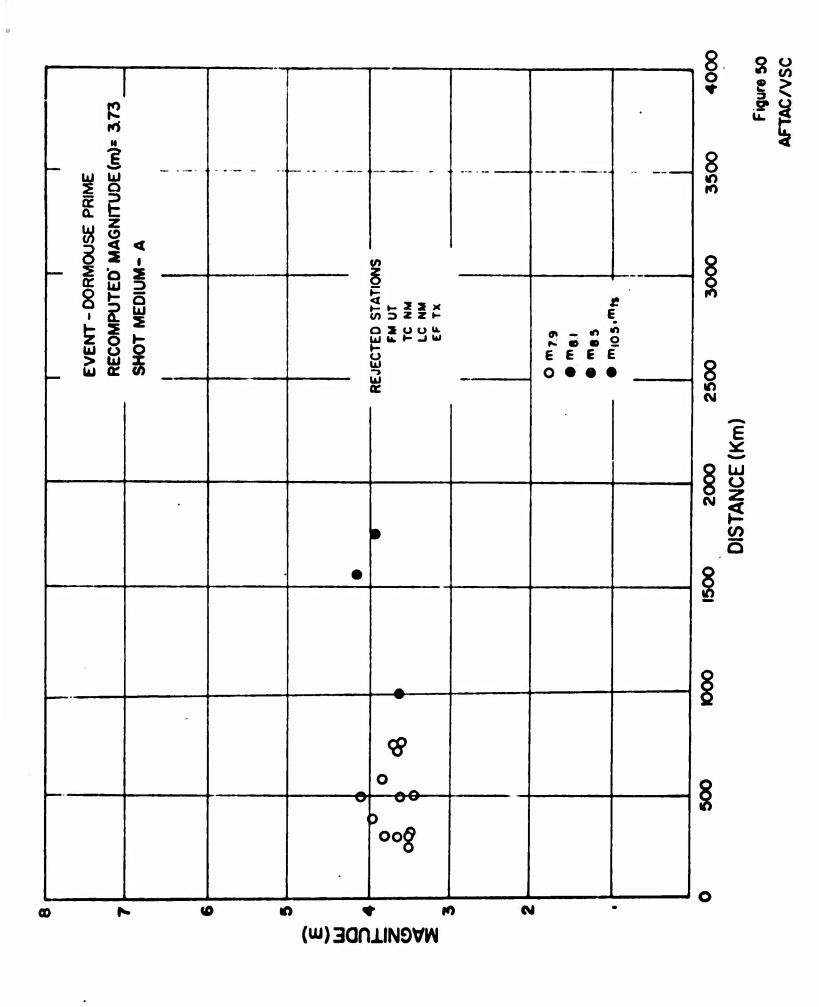
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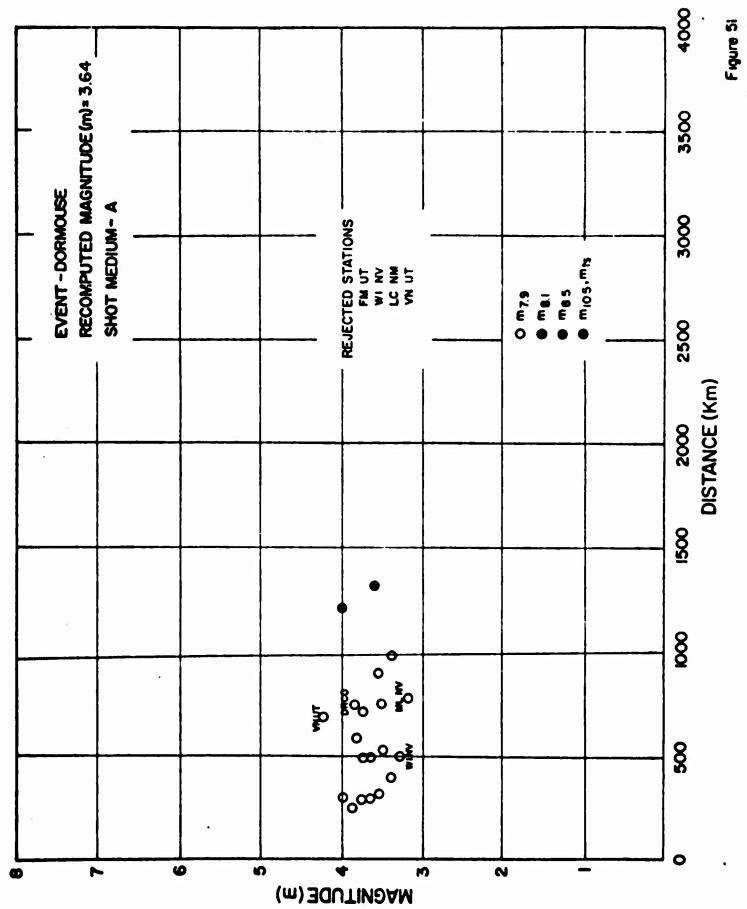
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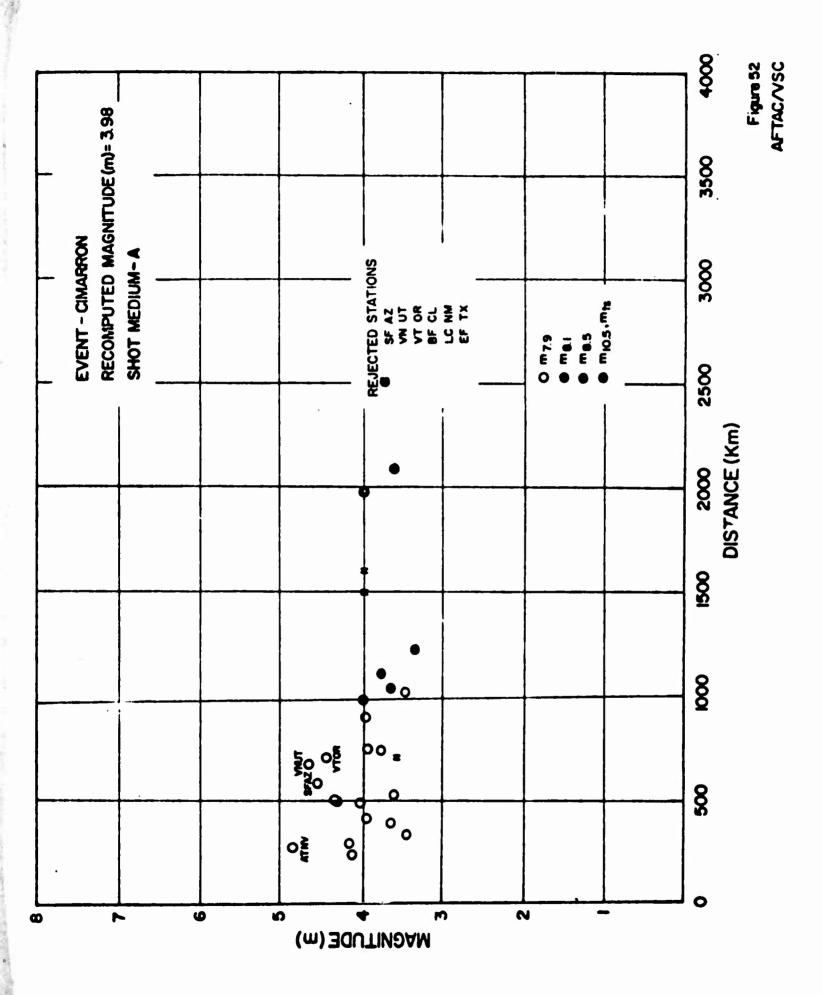


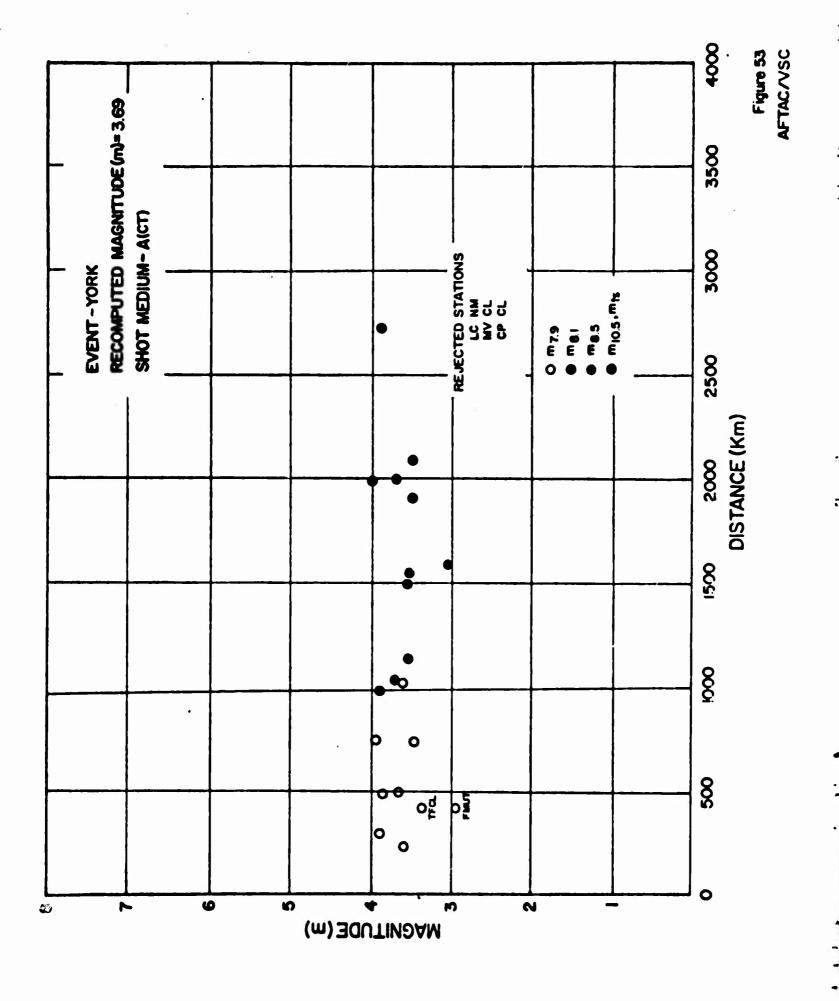


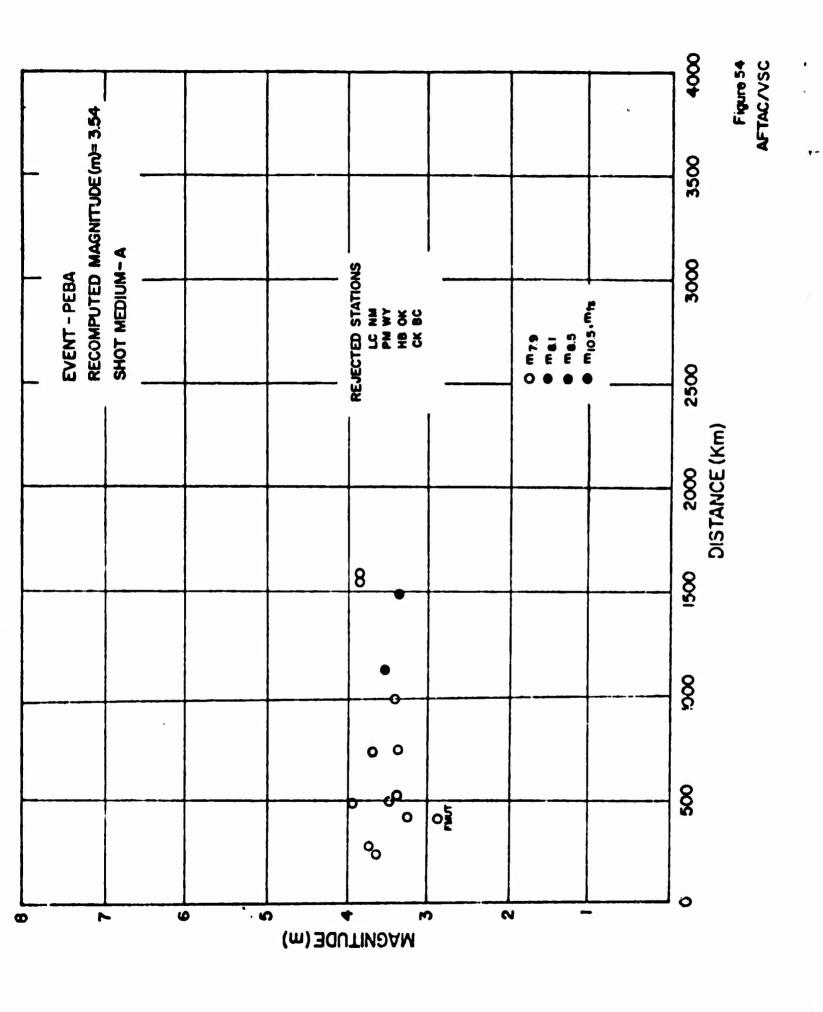


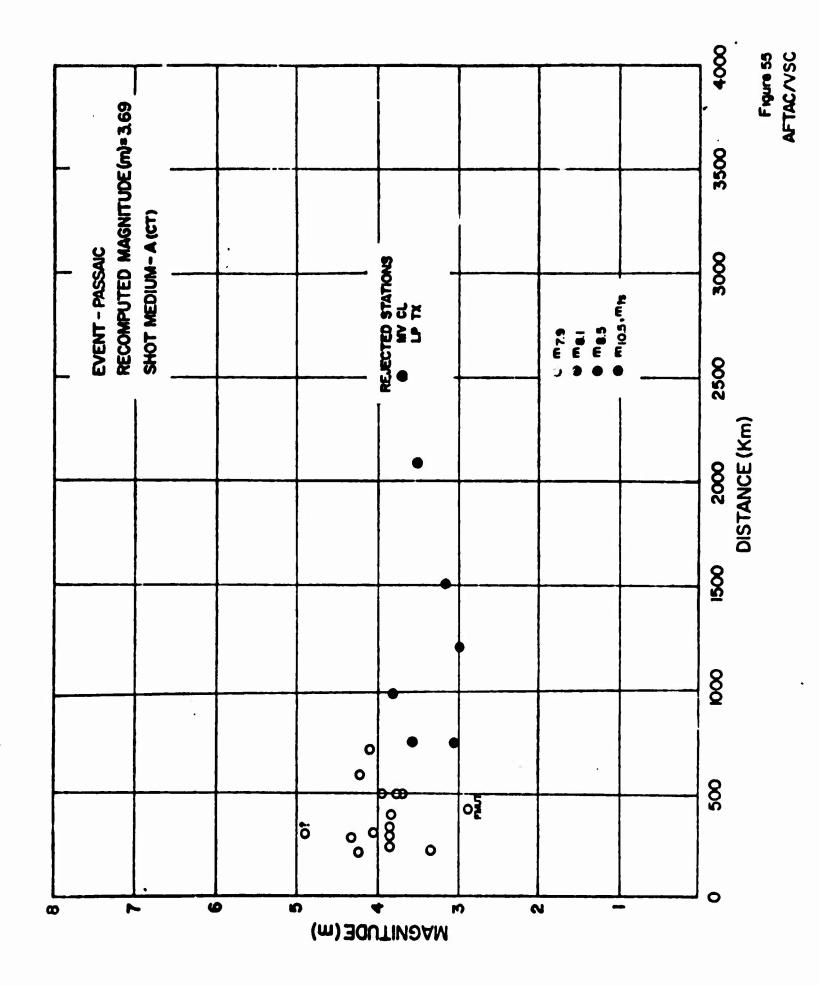


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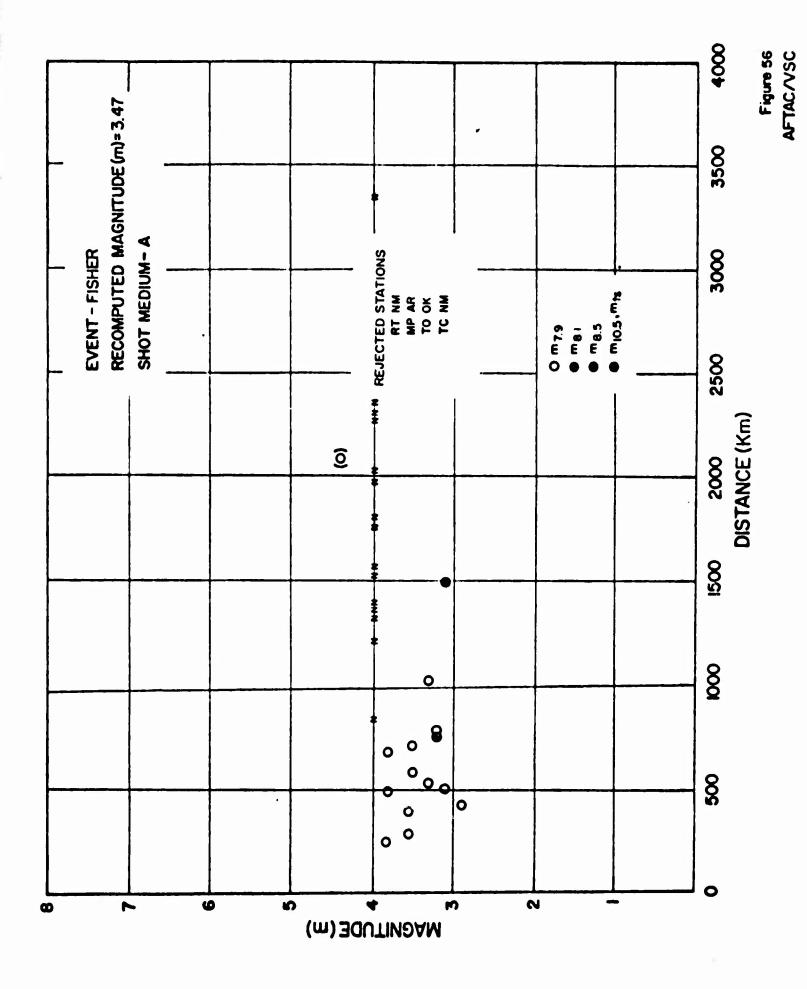
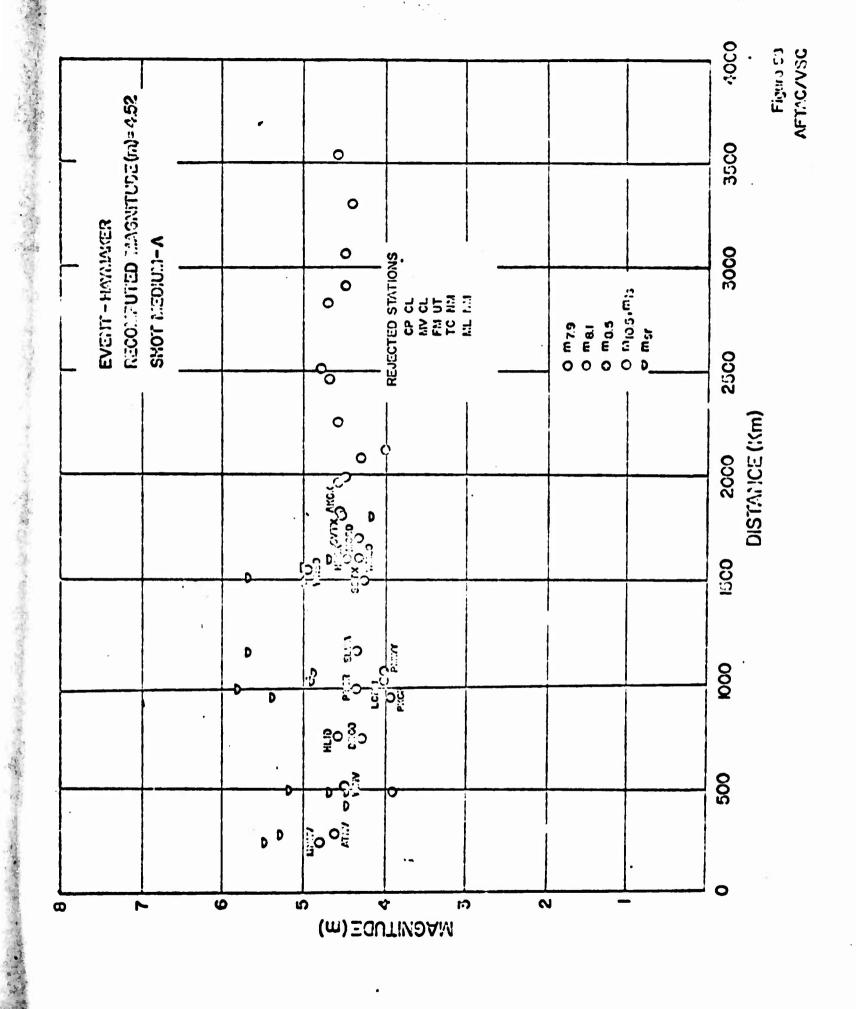
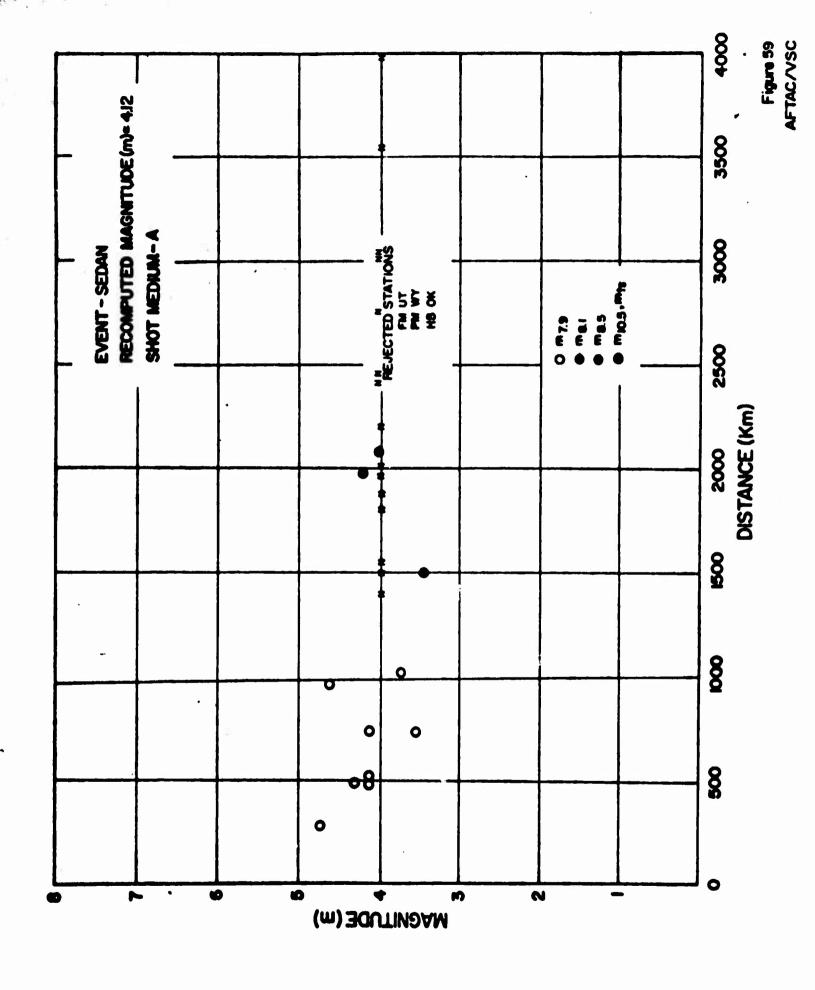
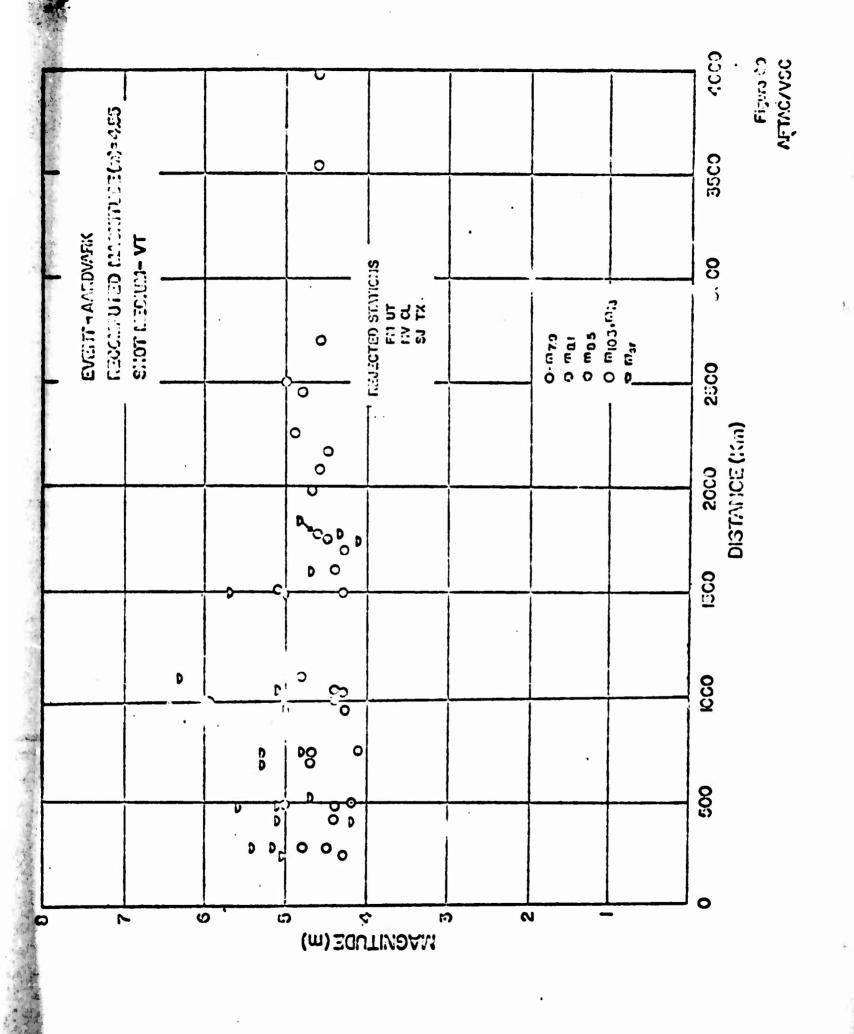
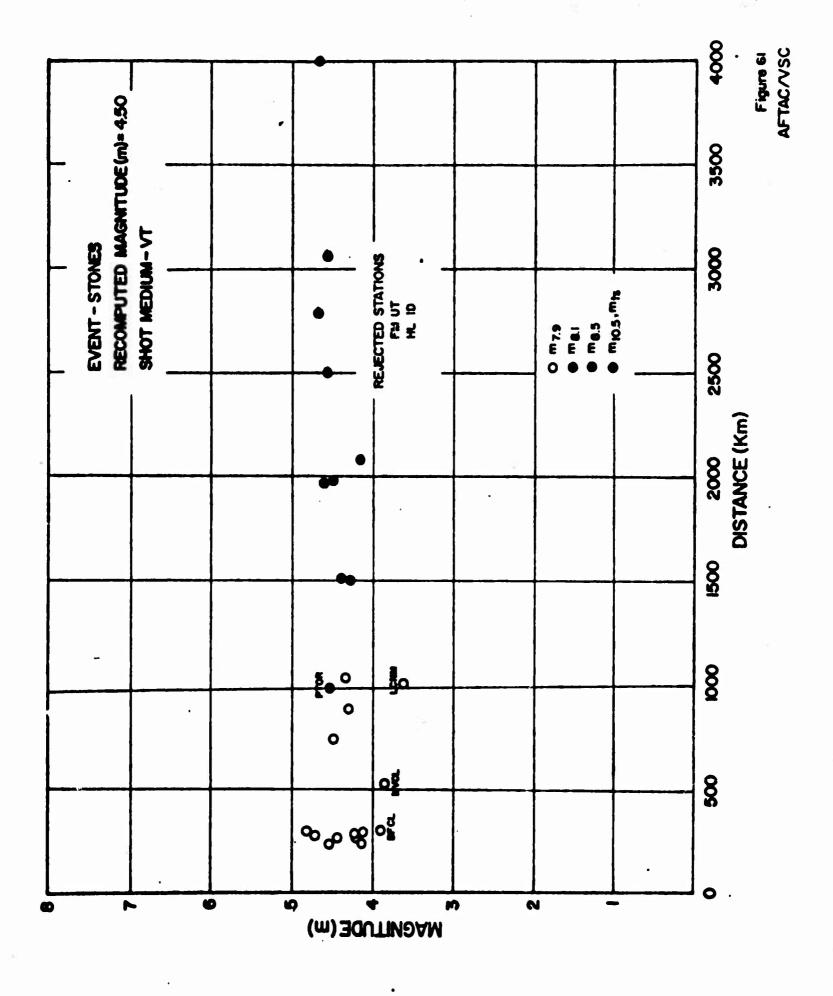


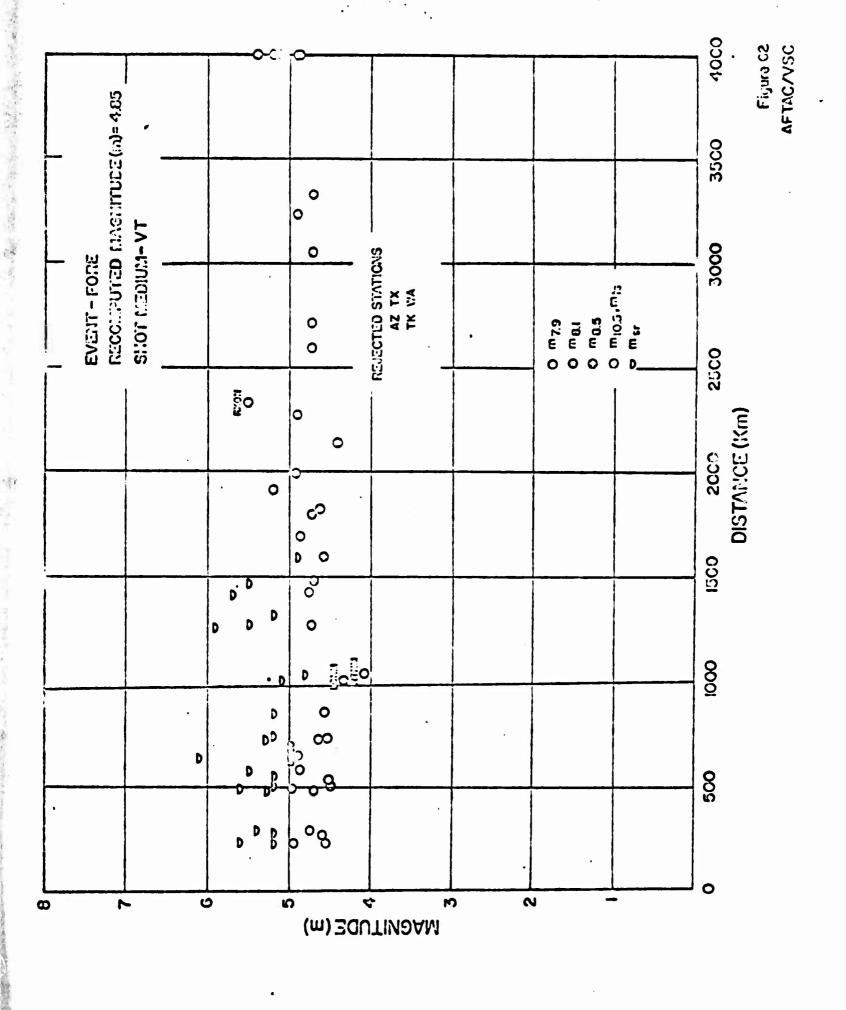
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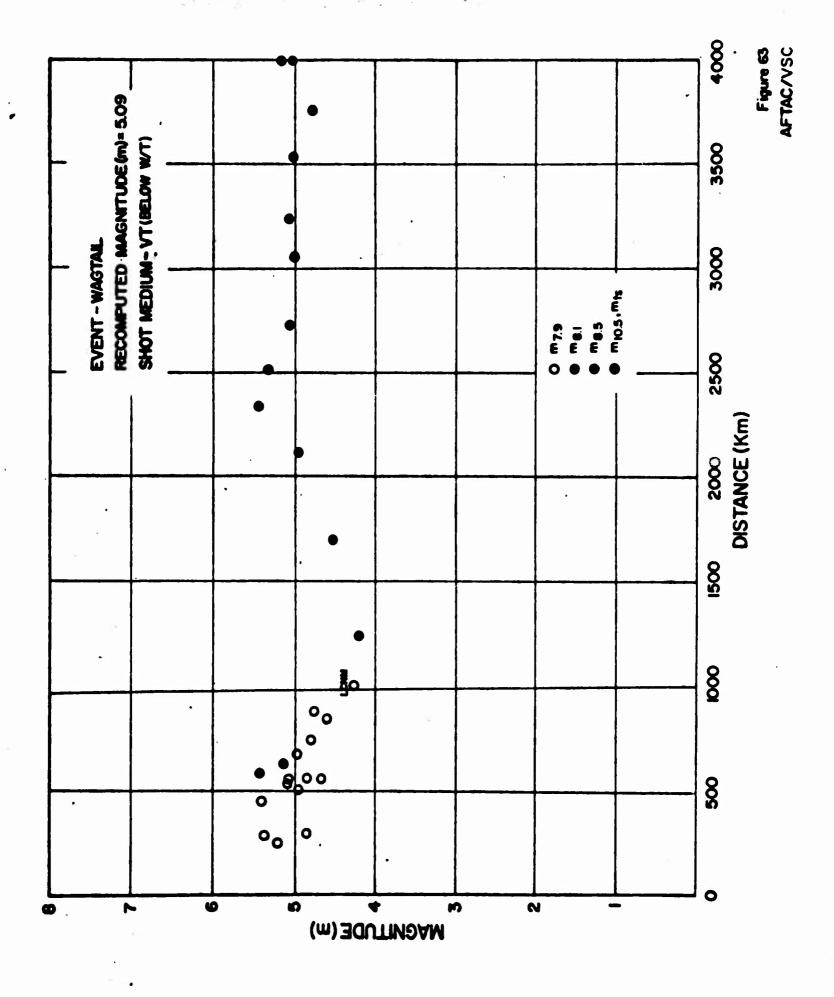


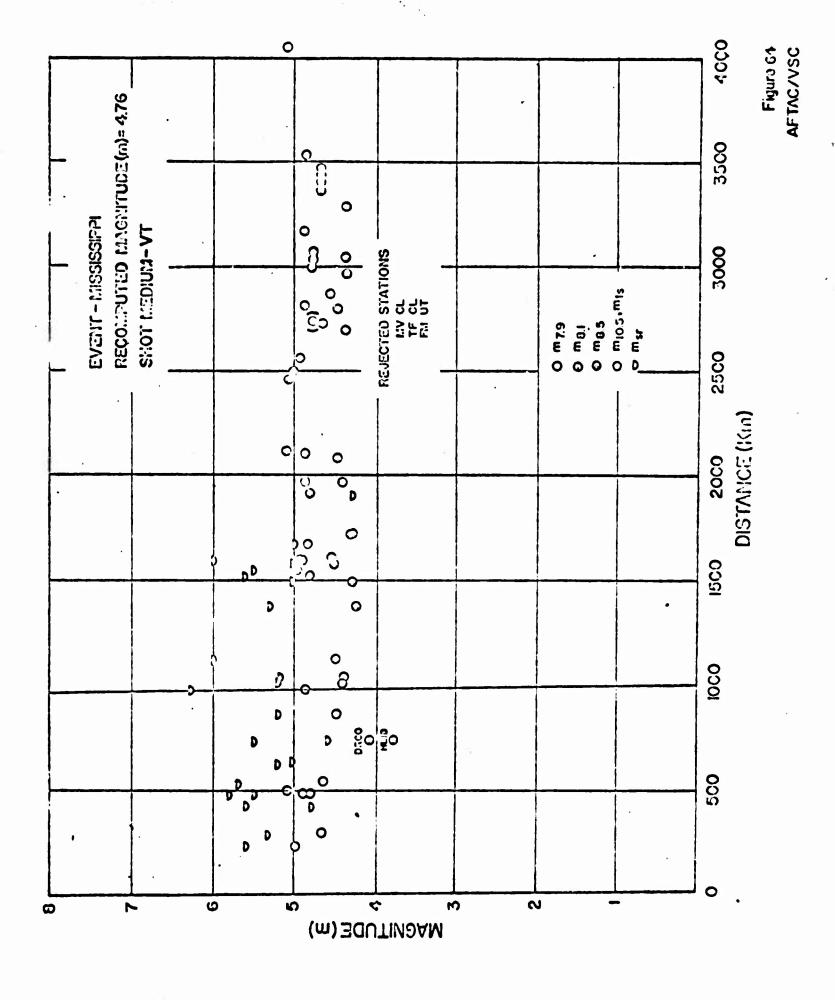


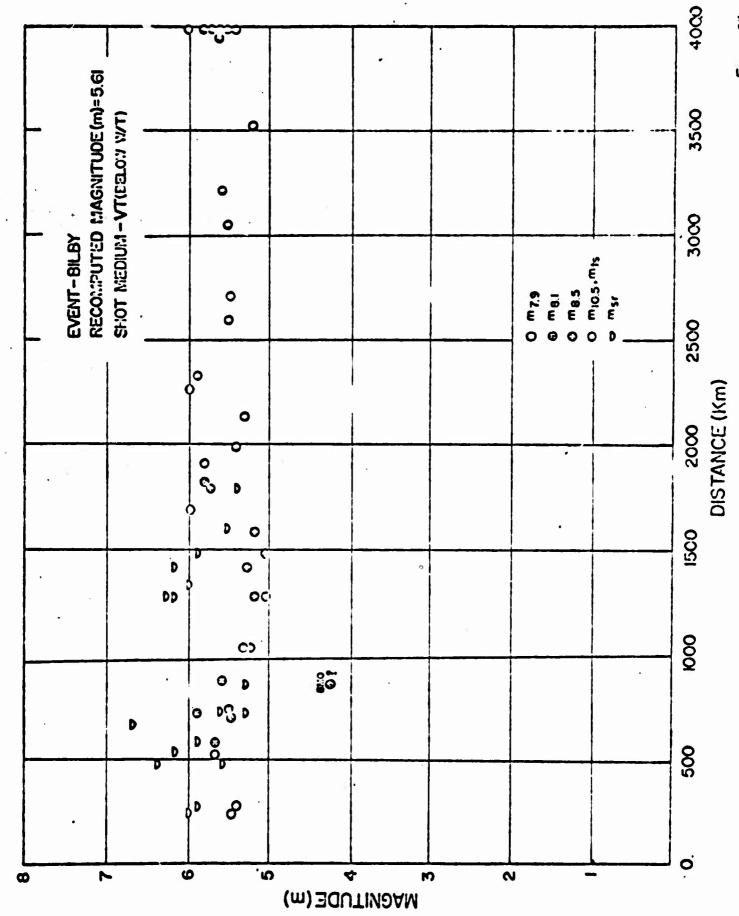


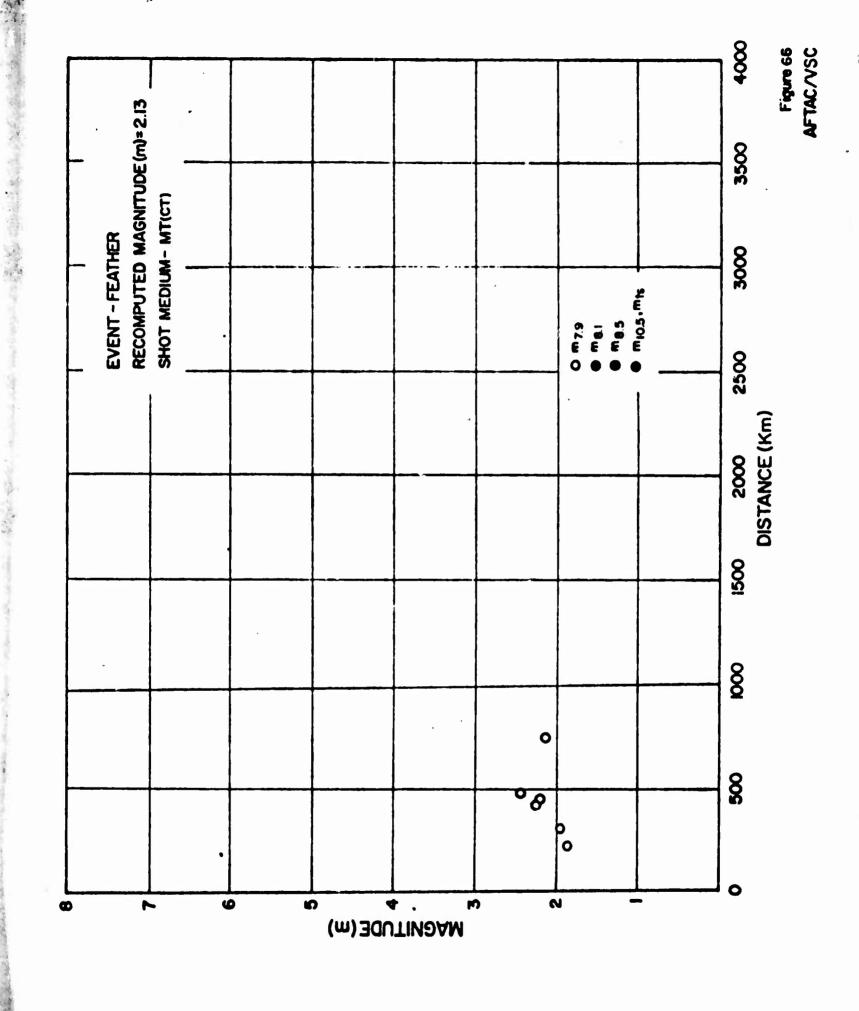








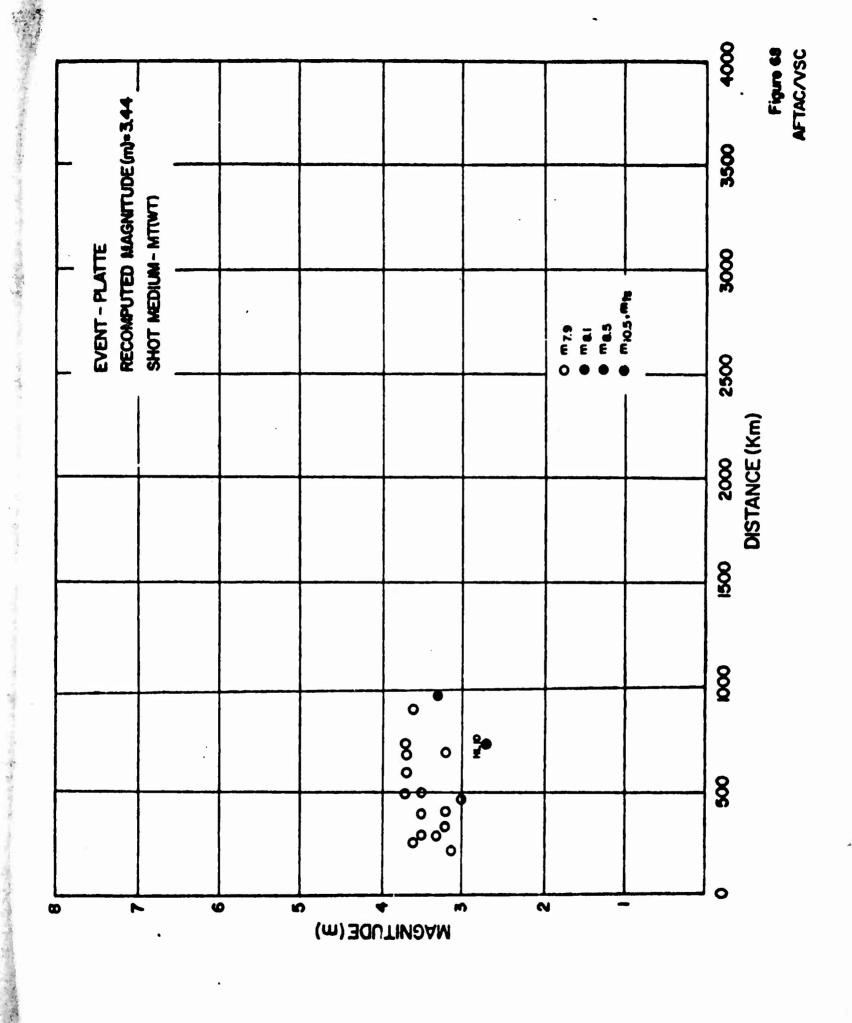


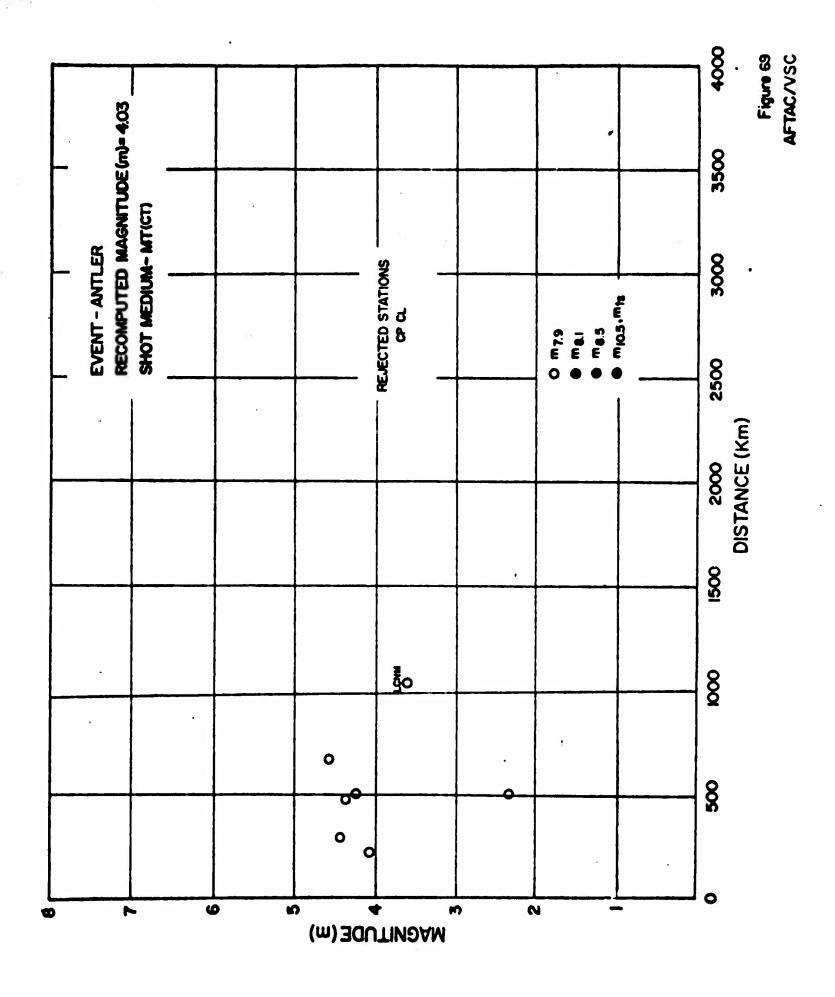


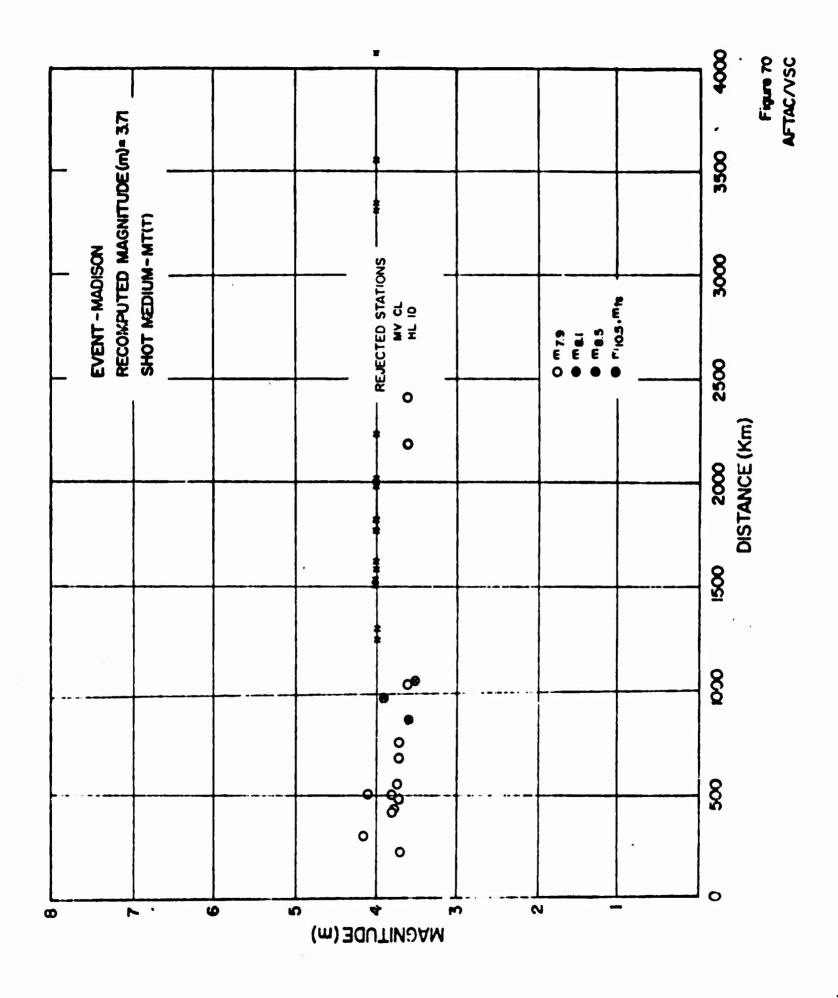
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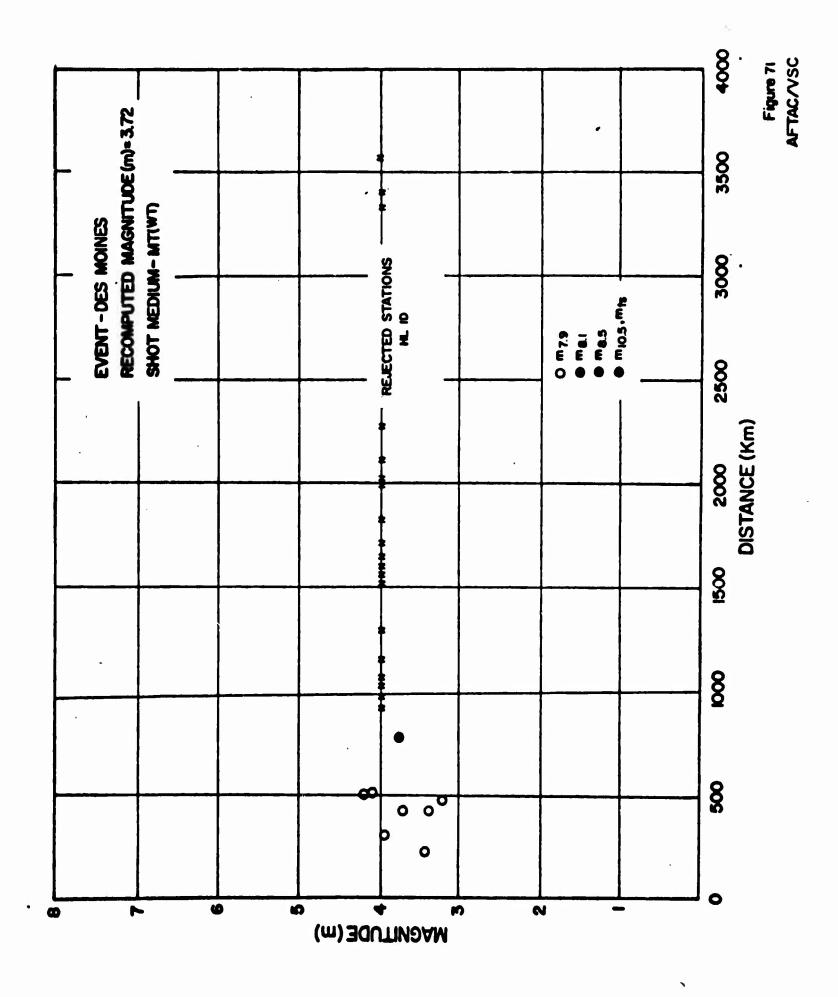
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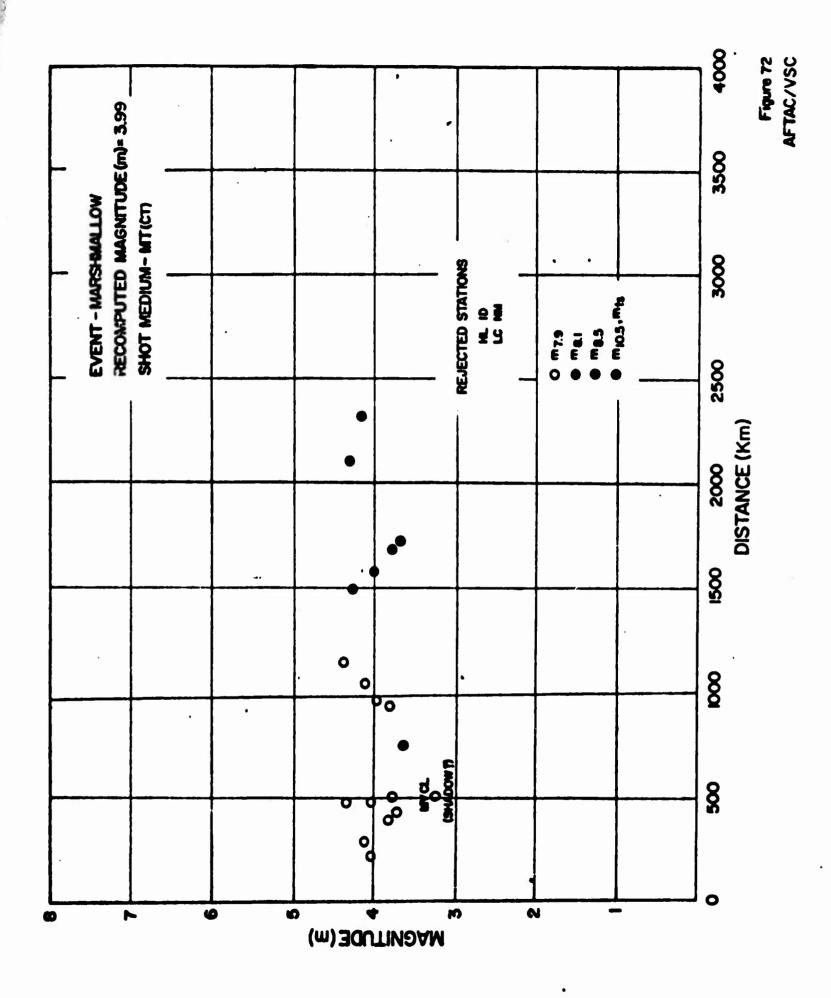
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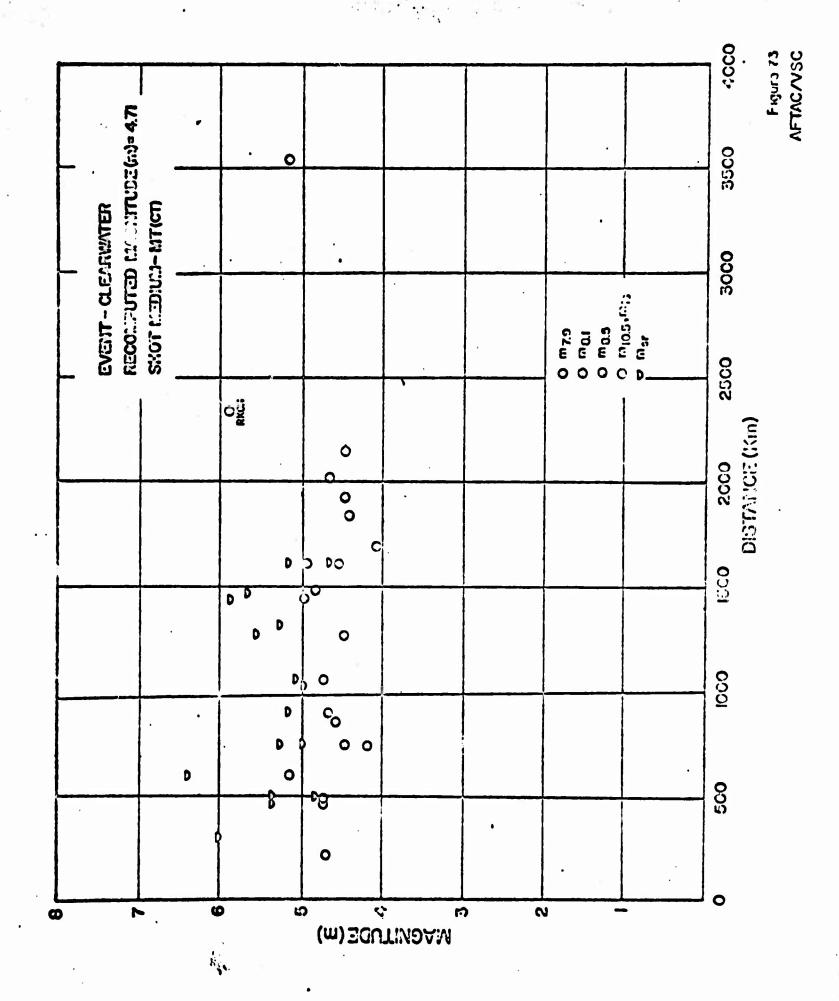


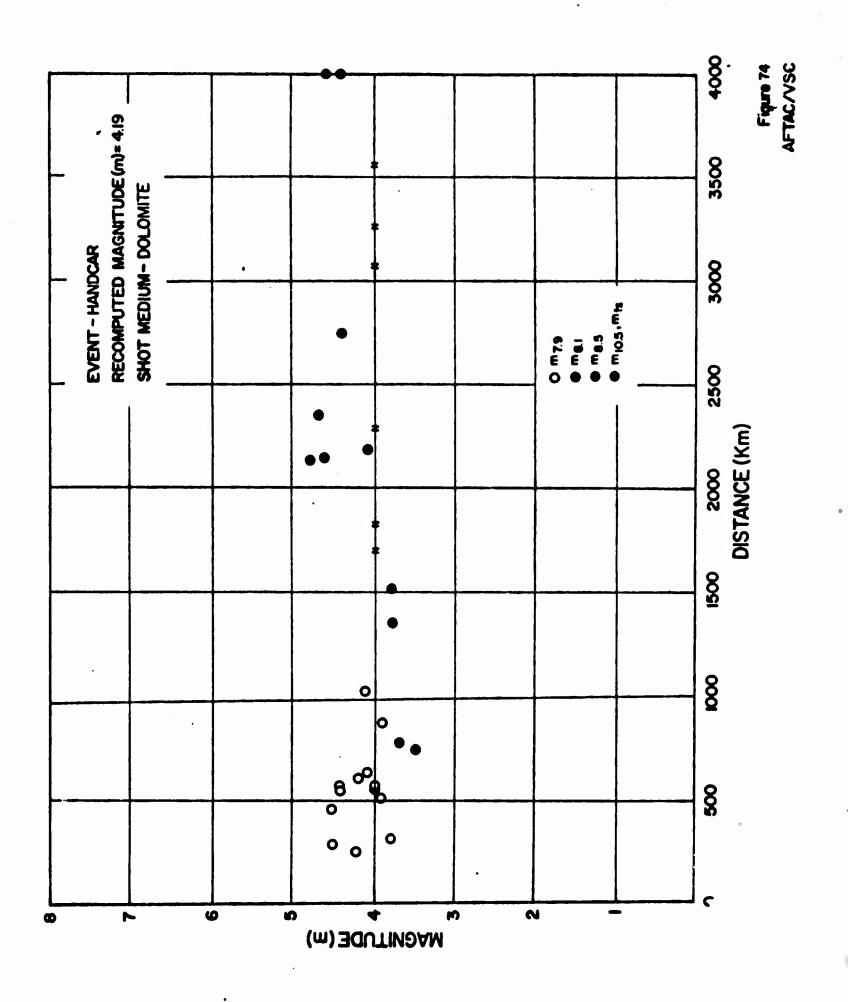


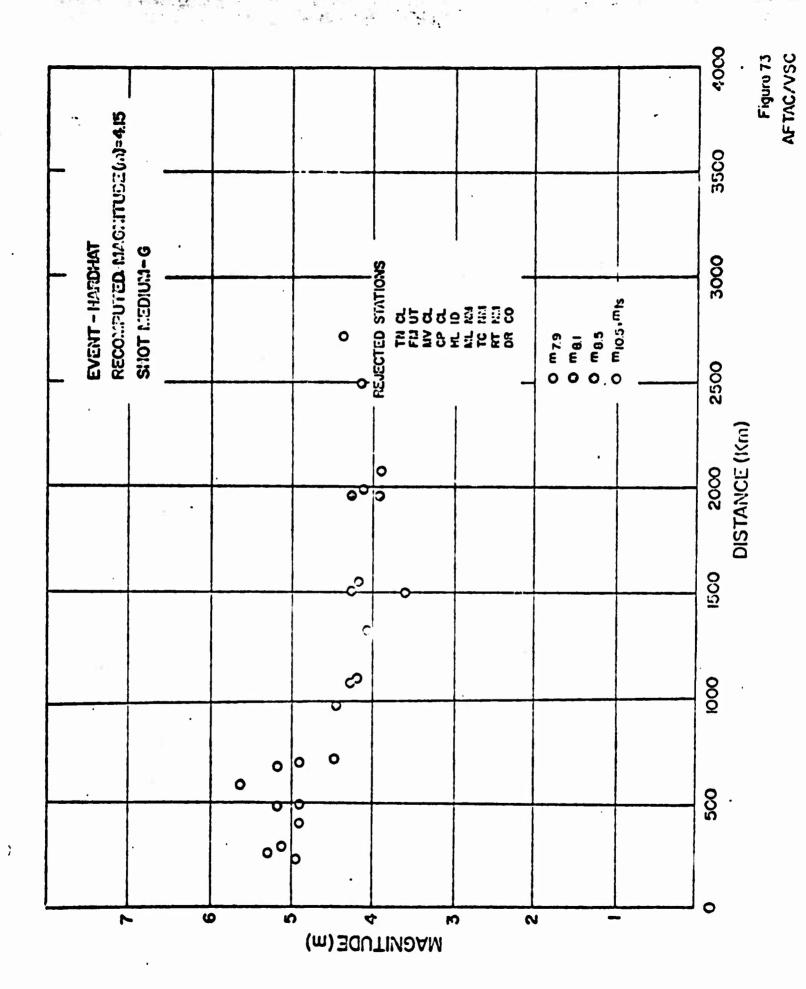


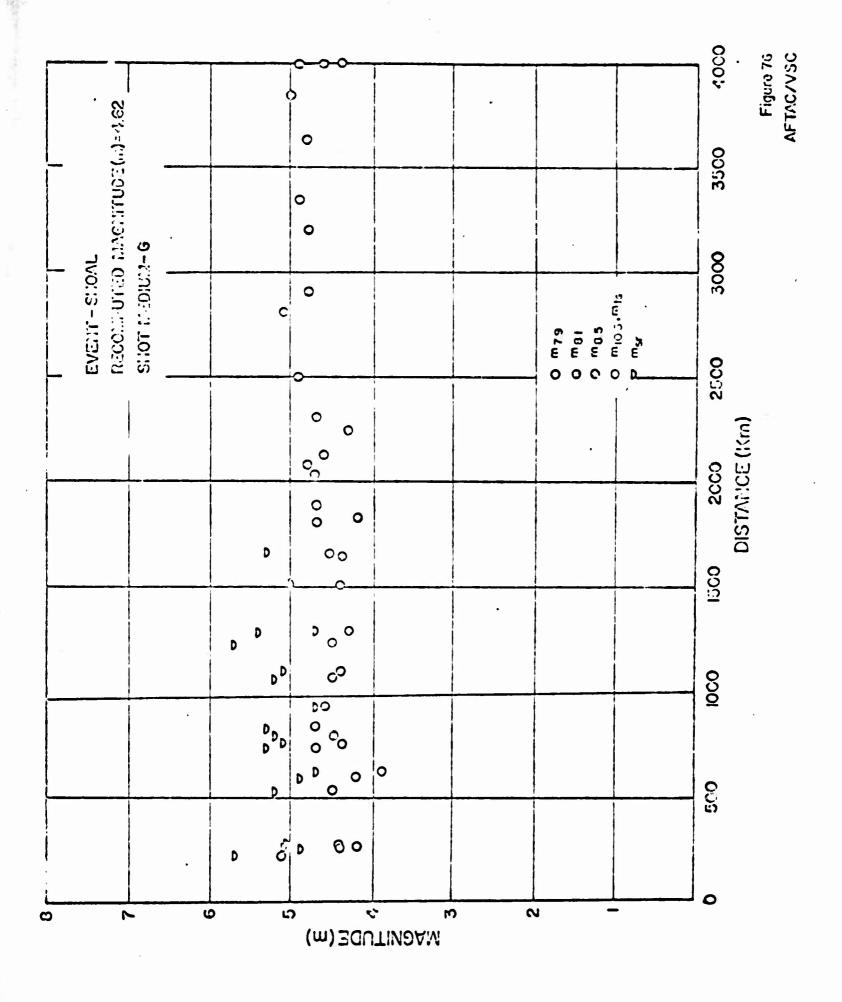


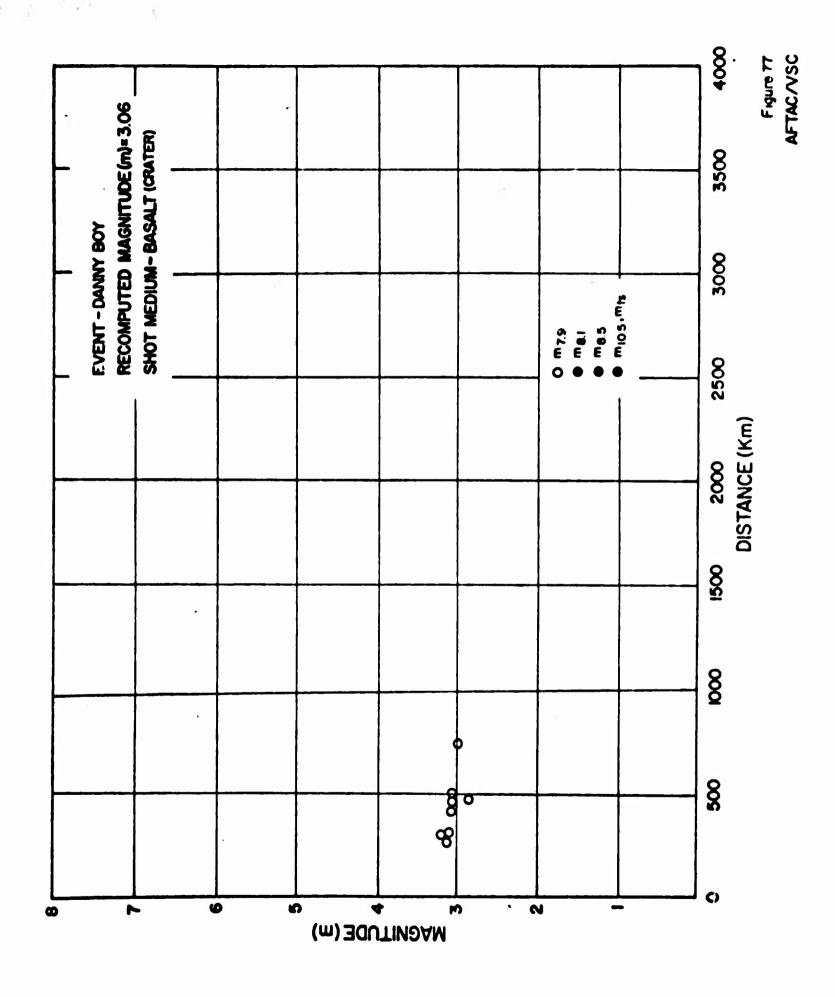


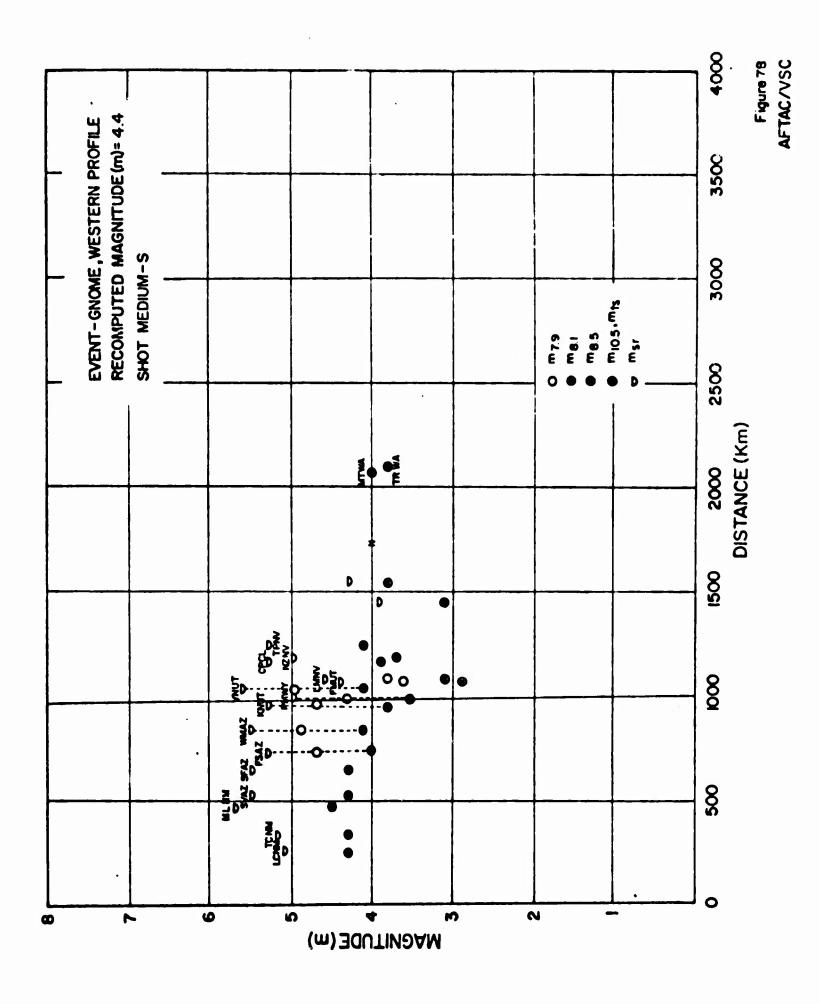












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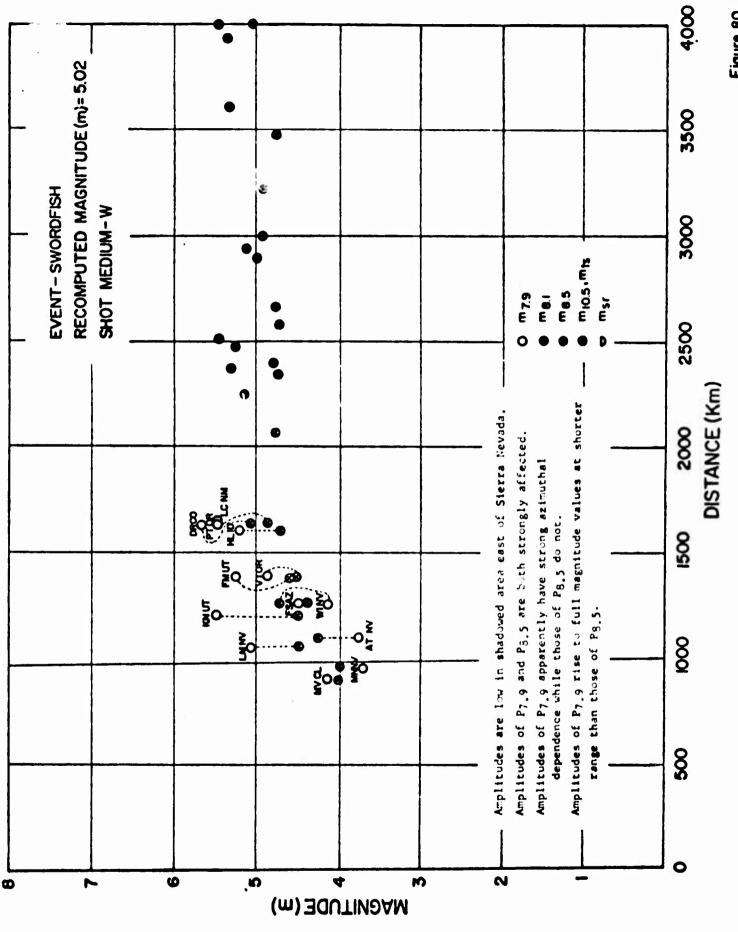
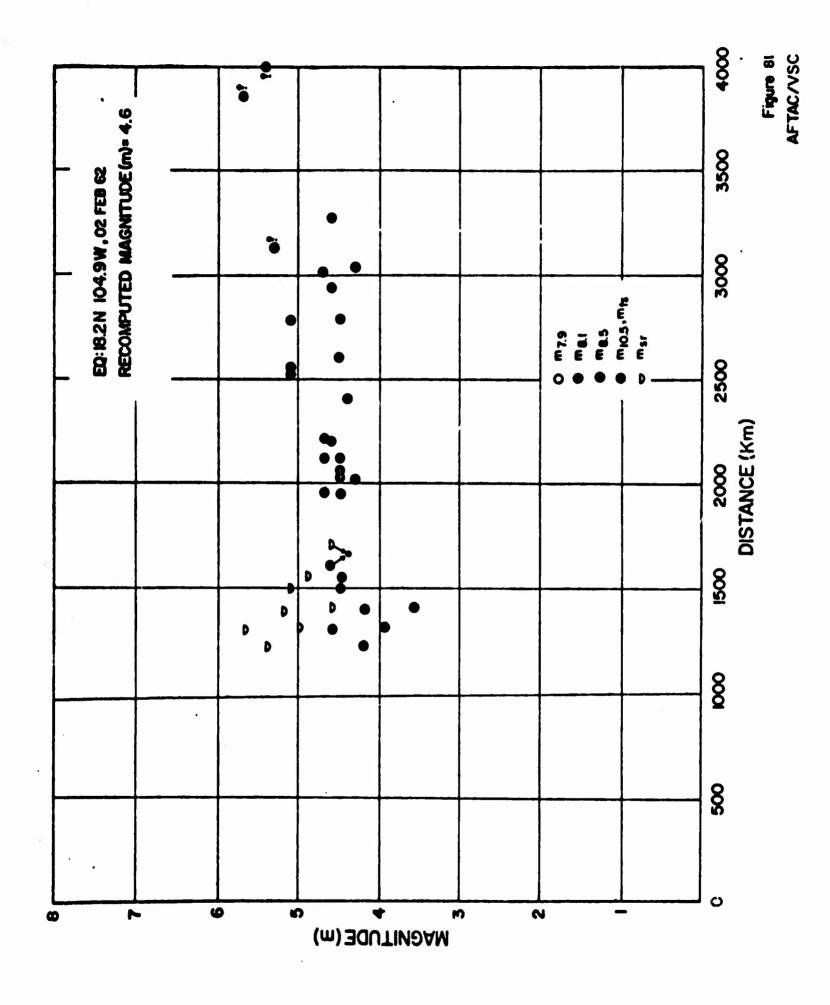
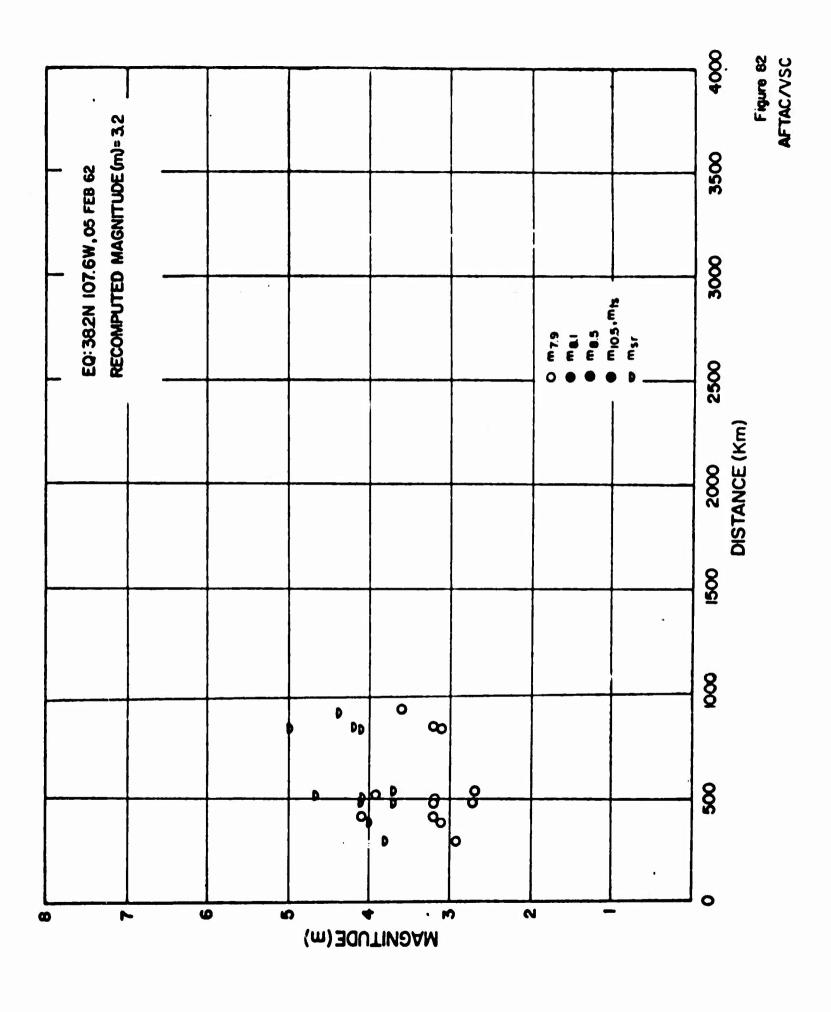
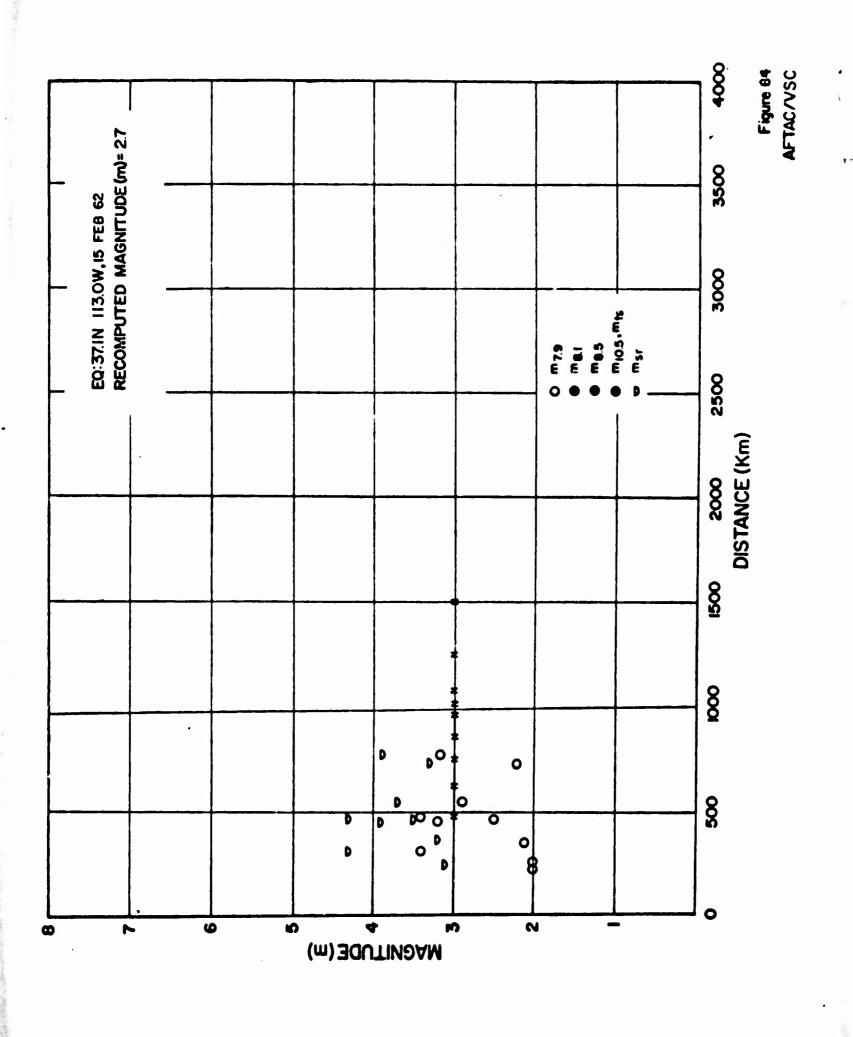
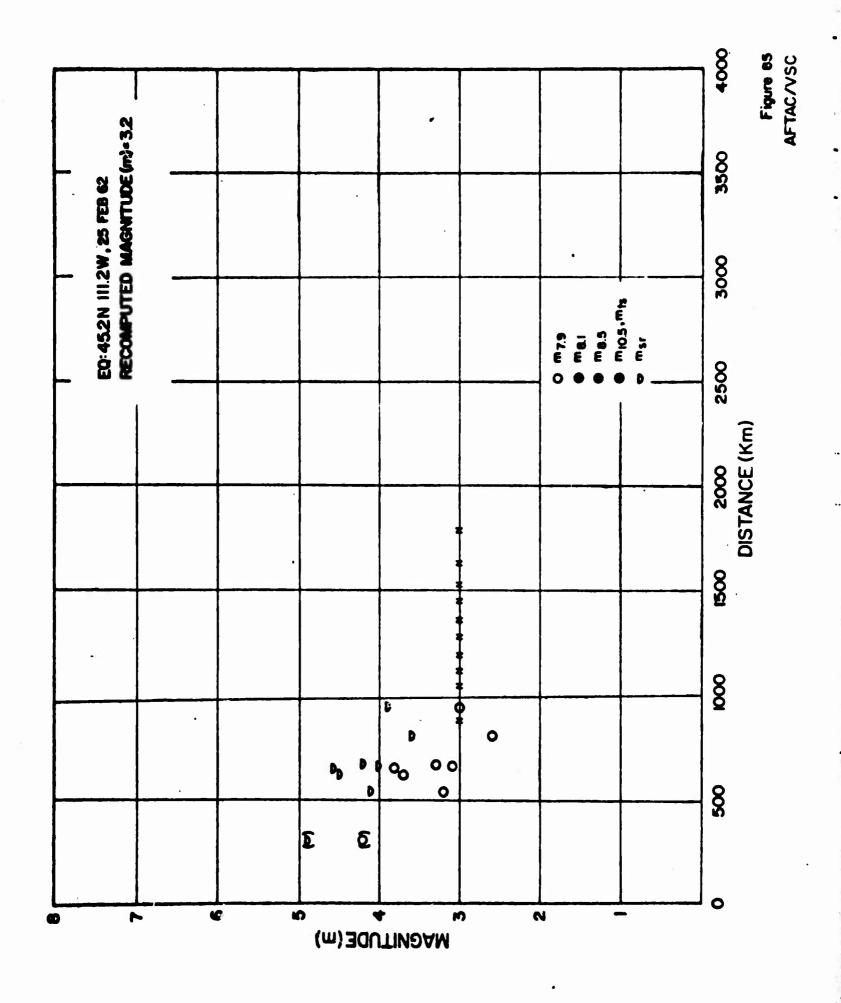


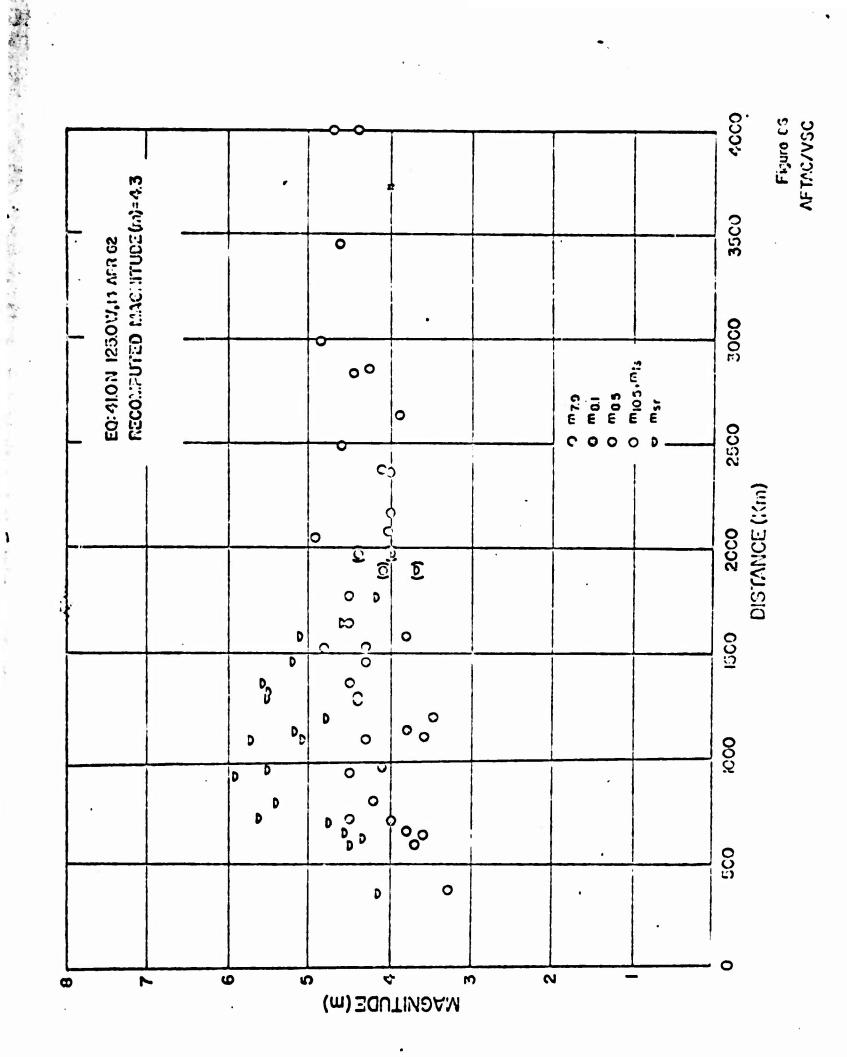
Figure 80
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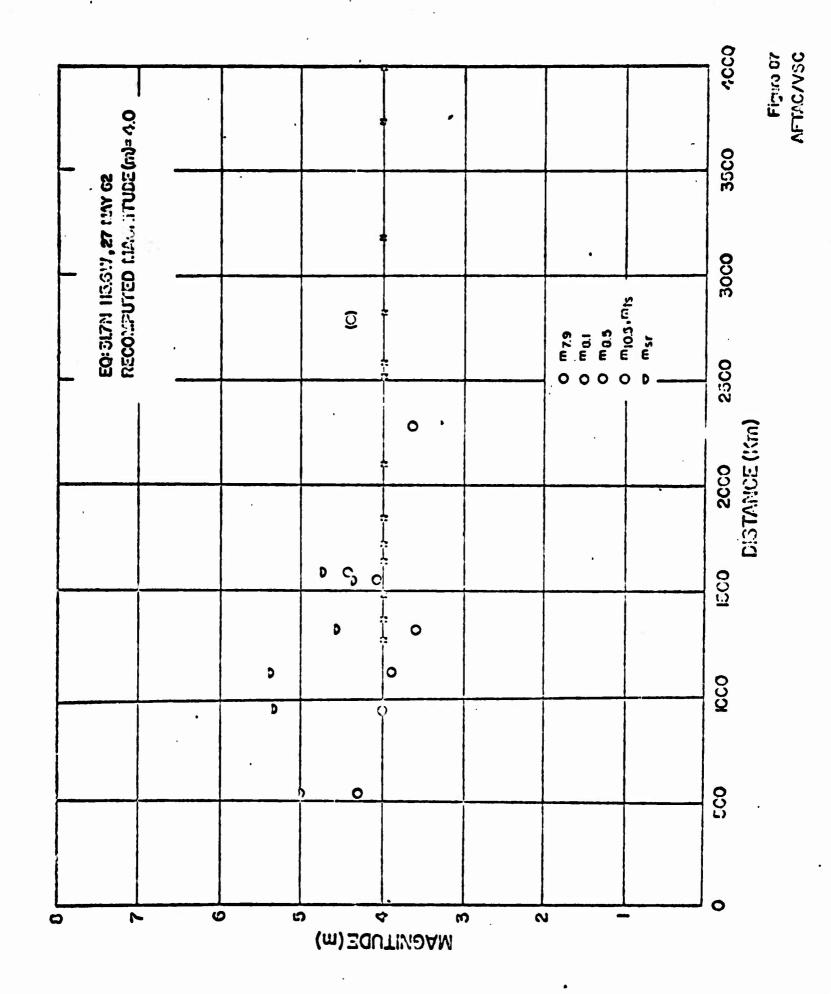




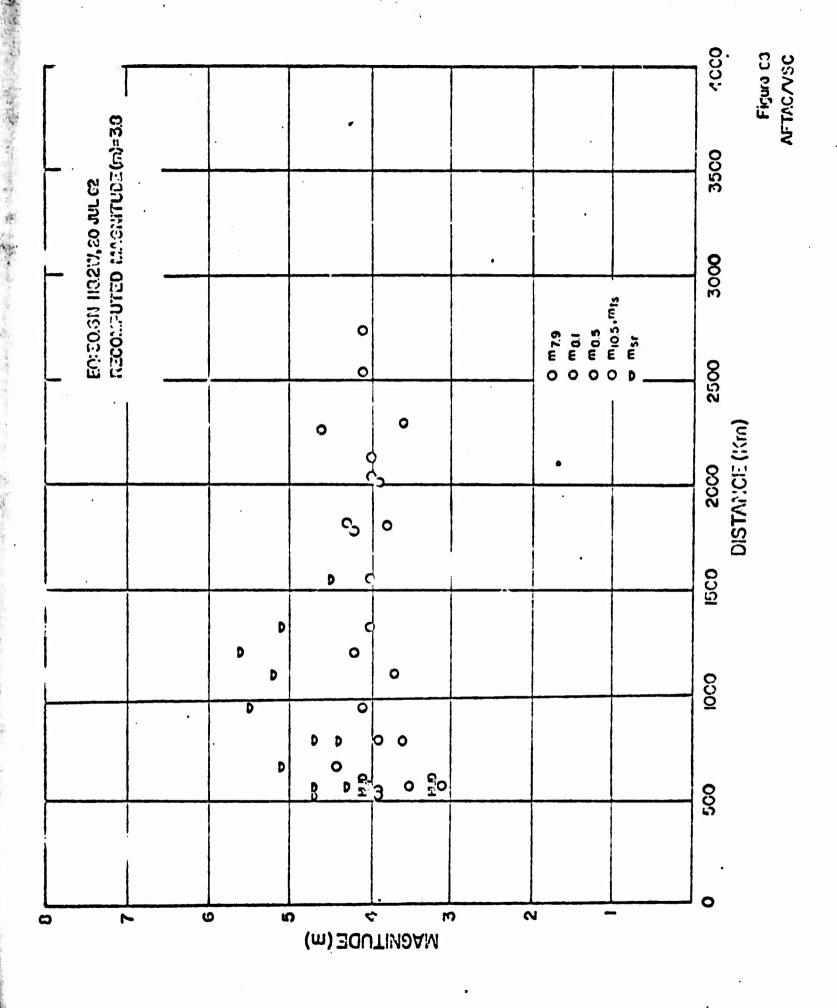


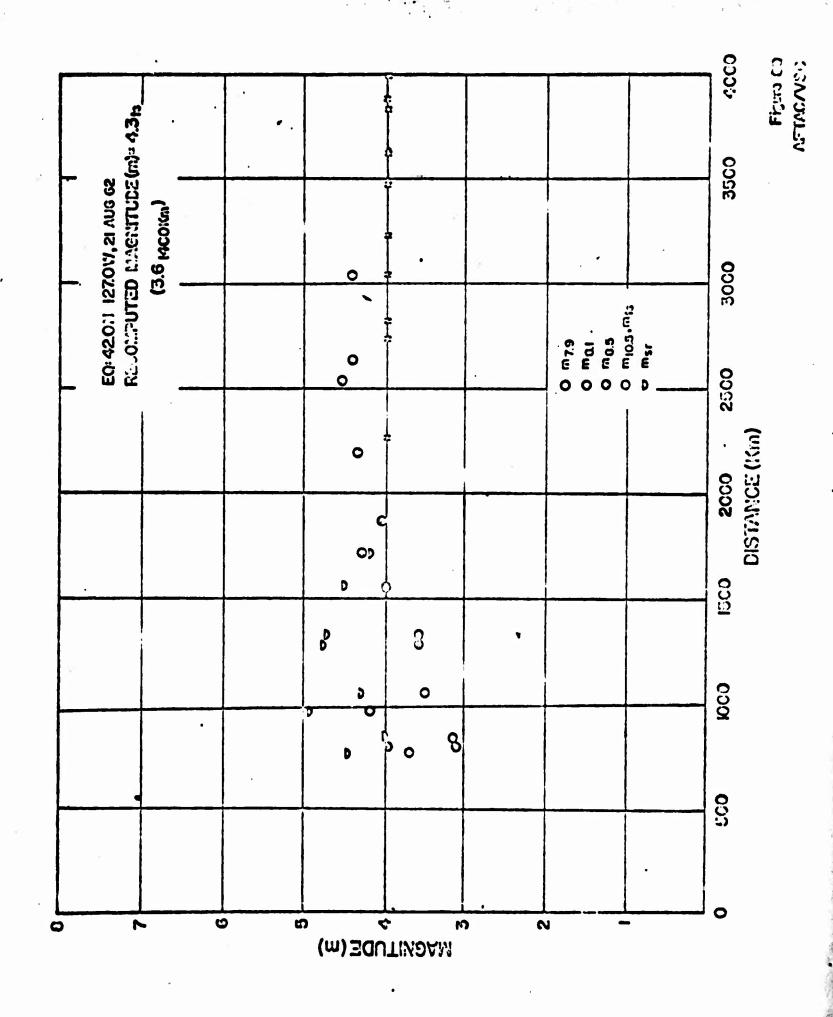


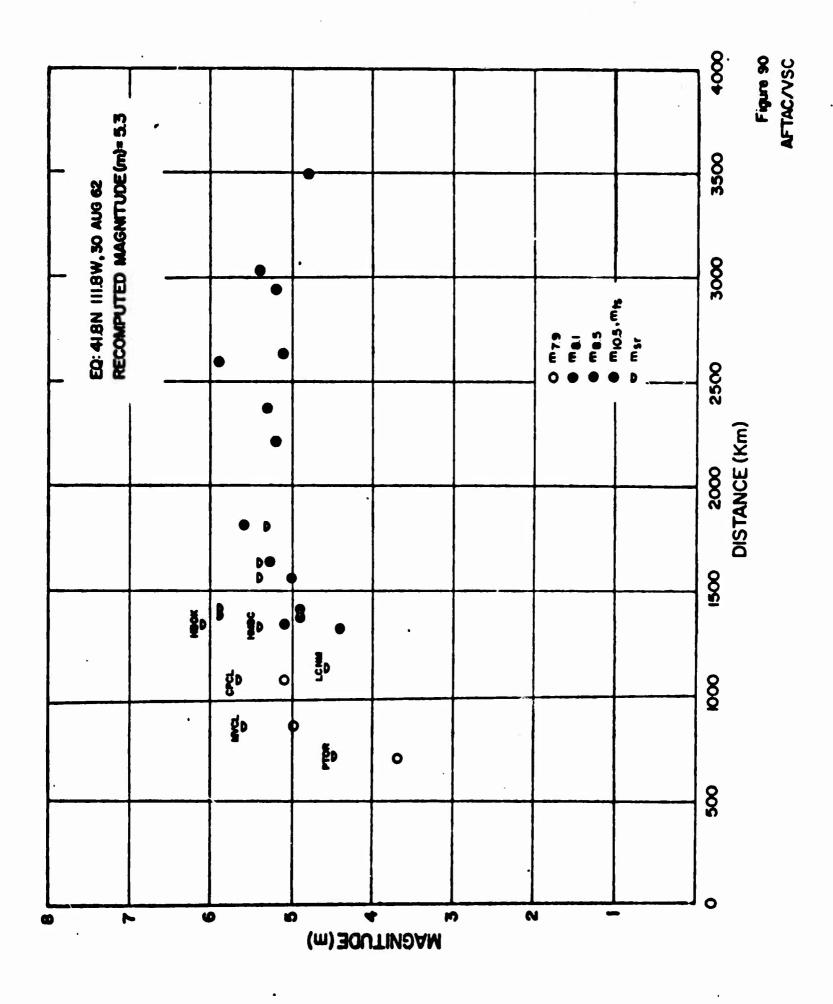


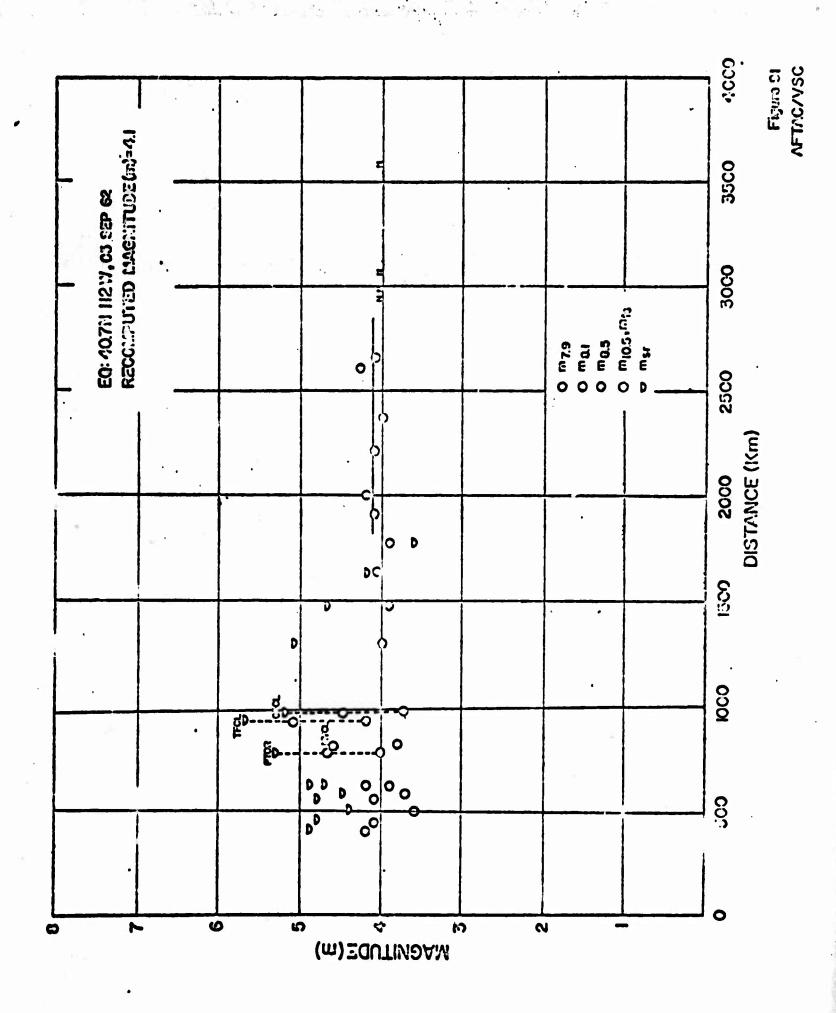


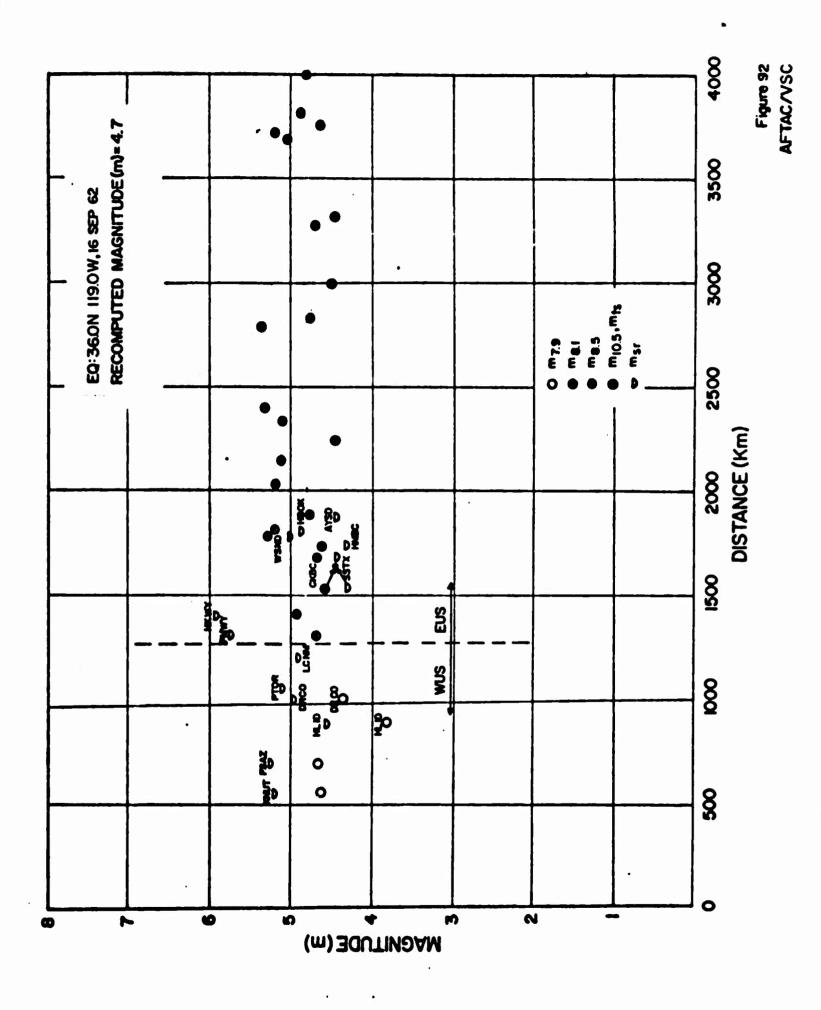
The state of the s

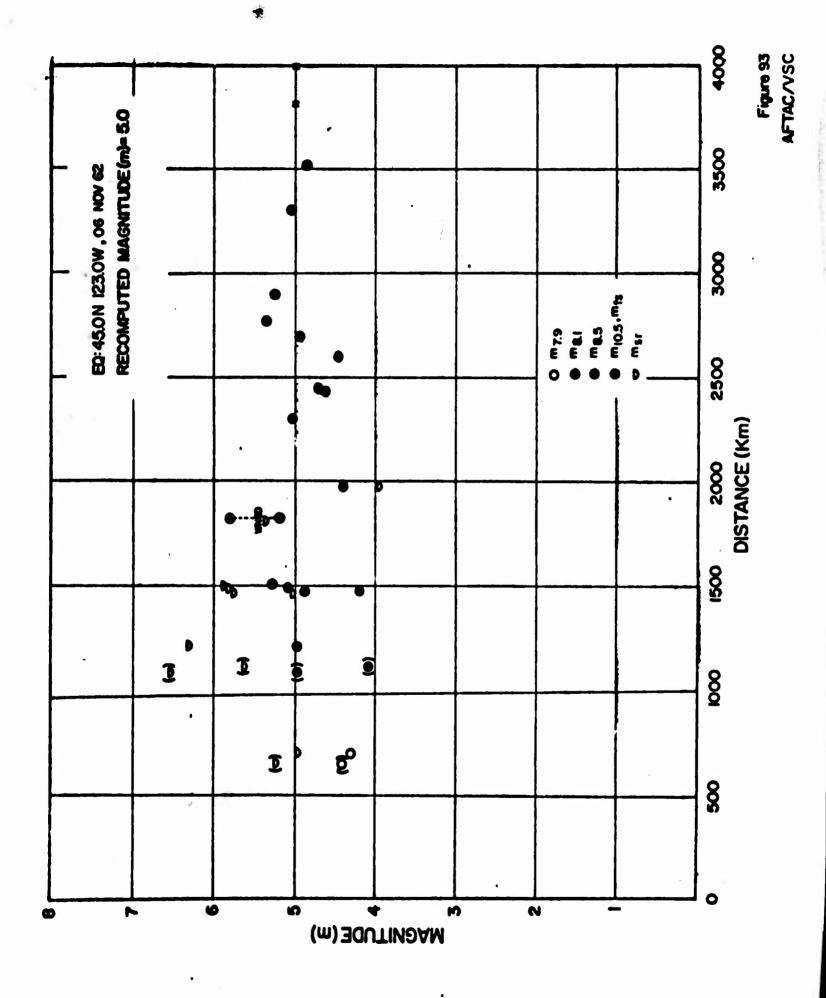


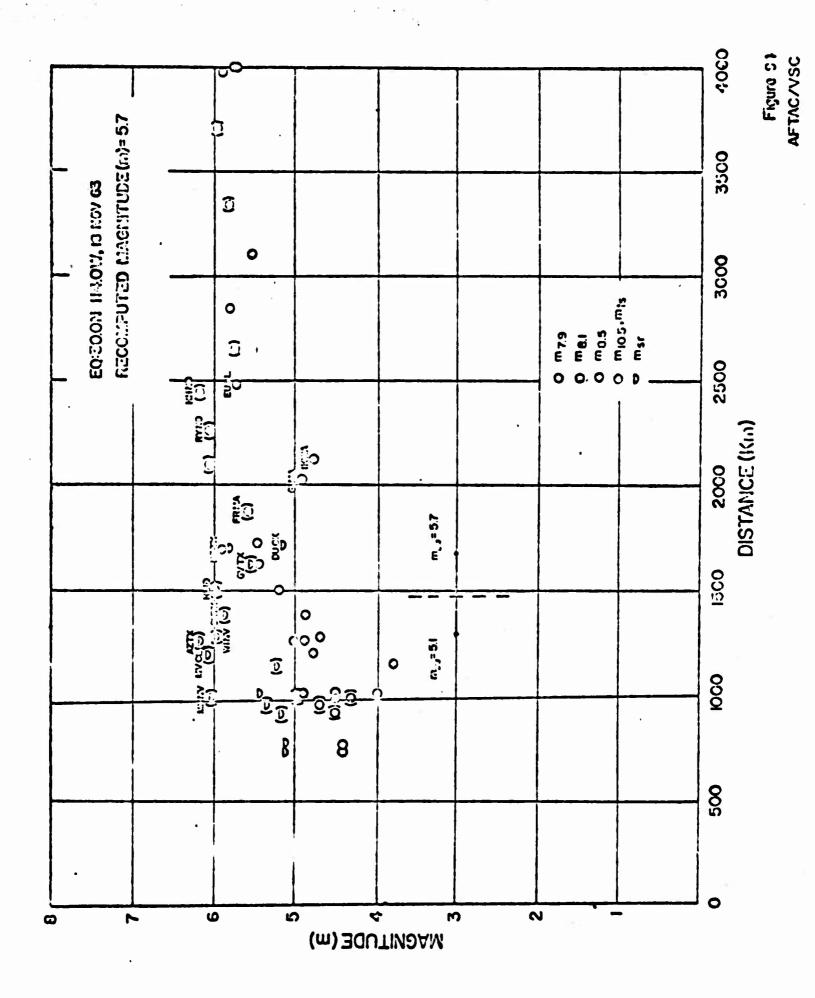












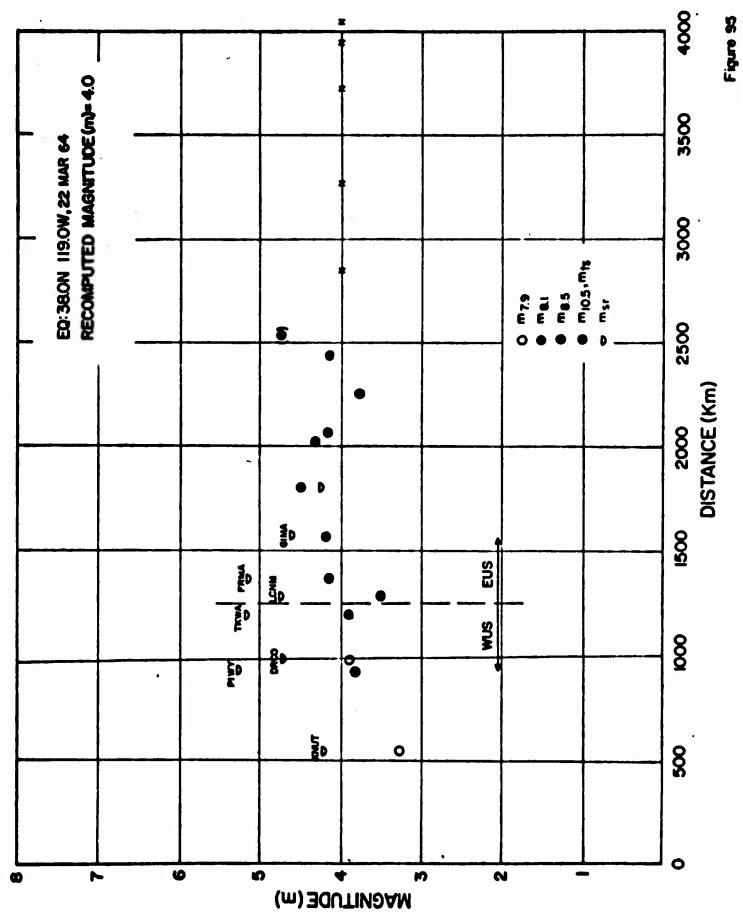
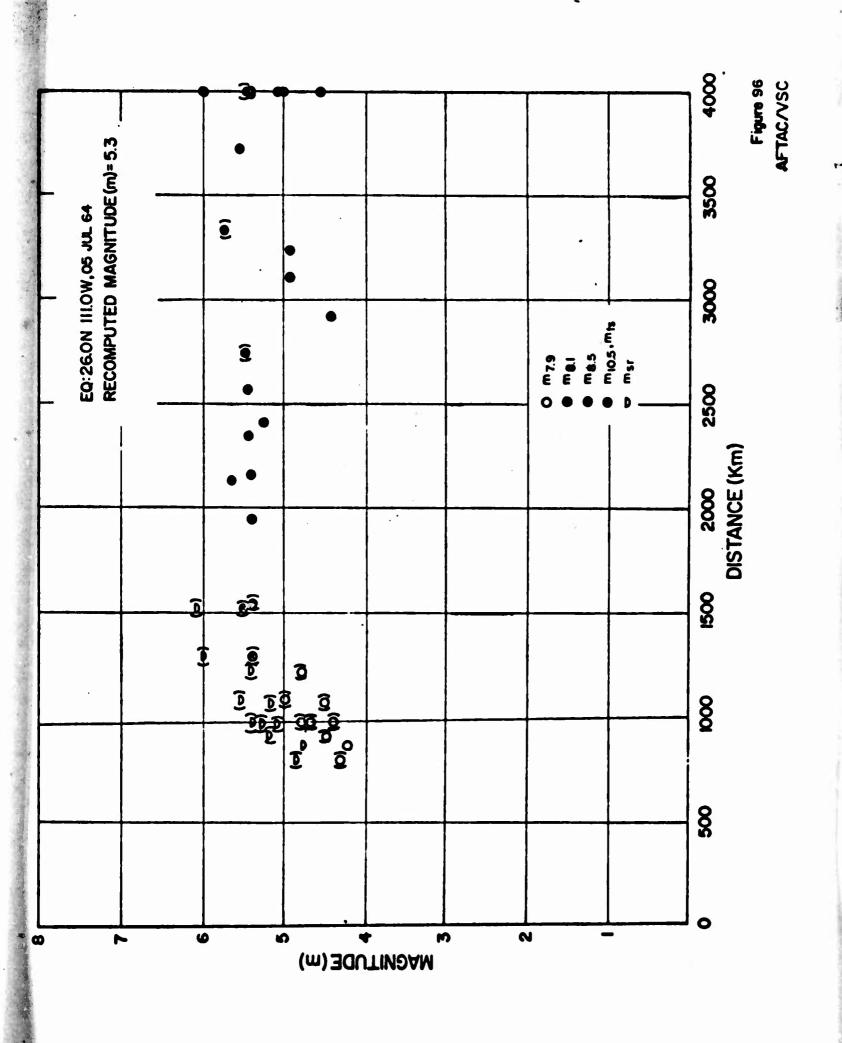
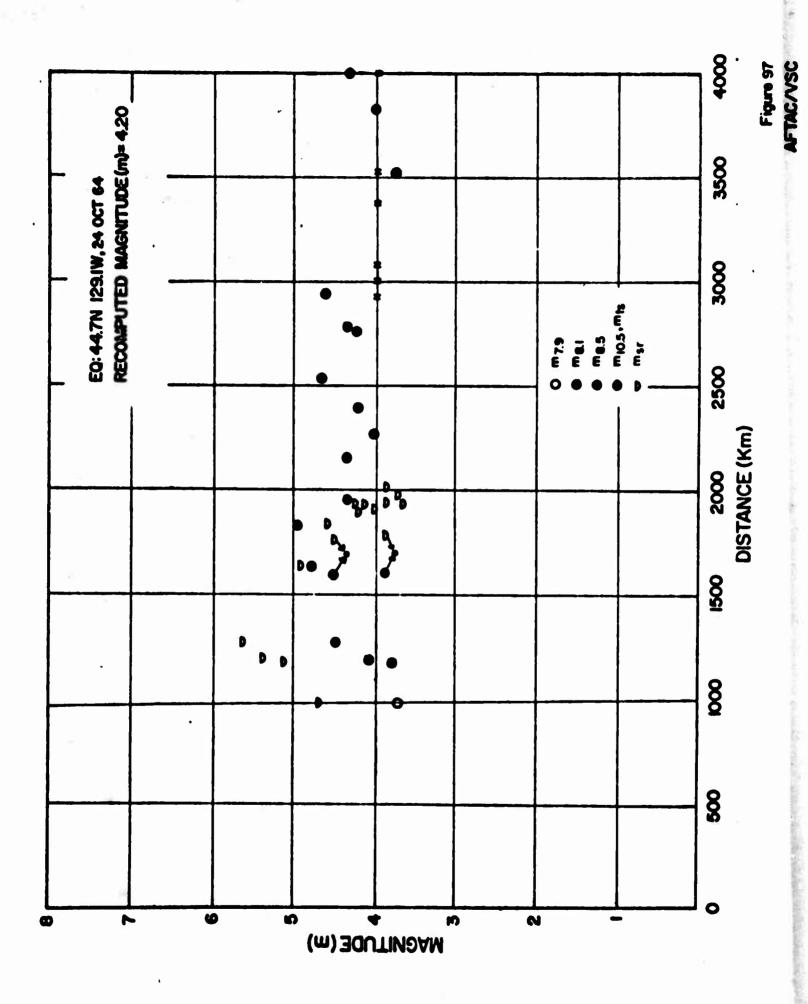
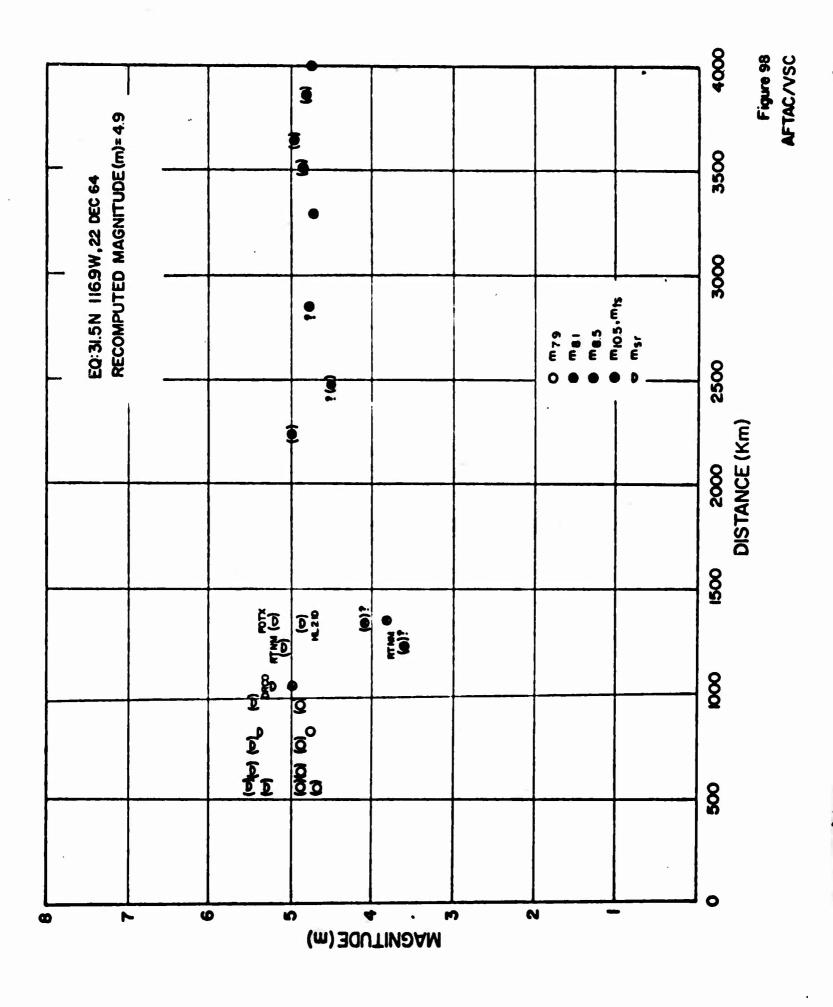
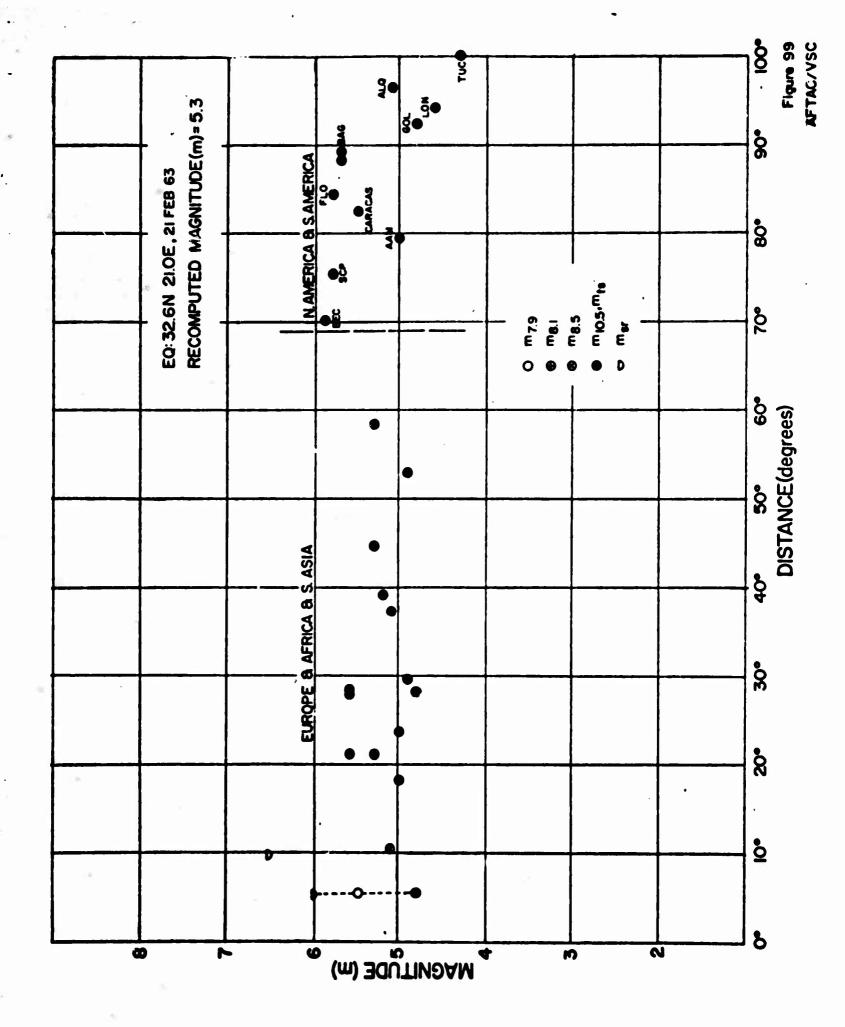


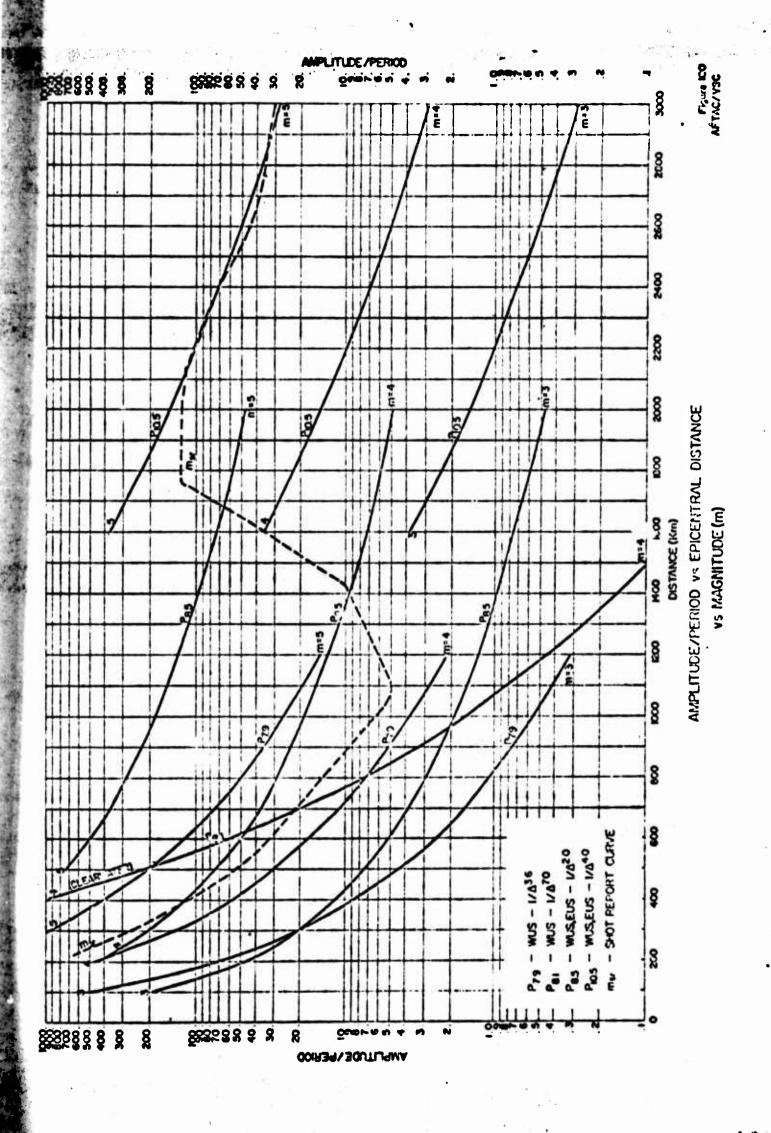
Figure 95 AFTAC/VSC

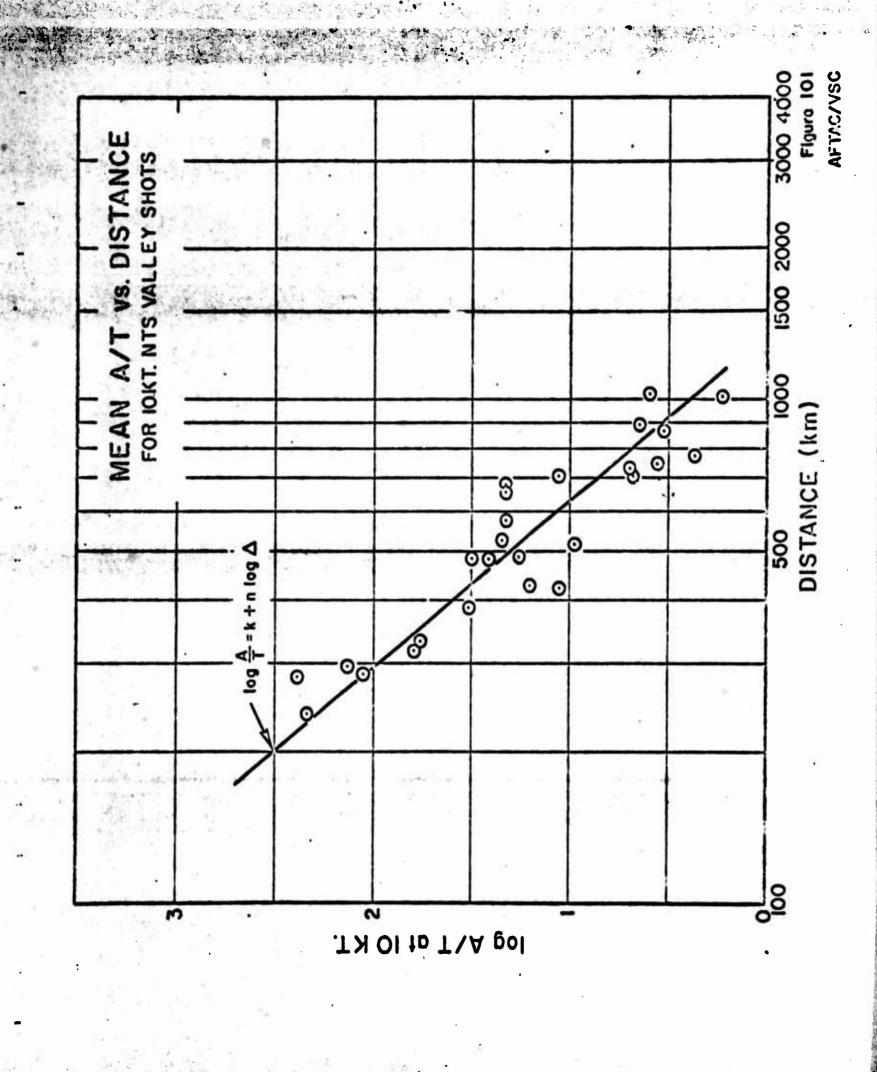


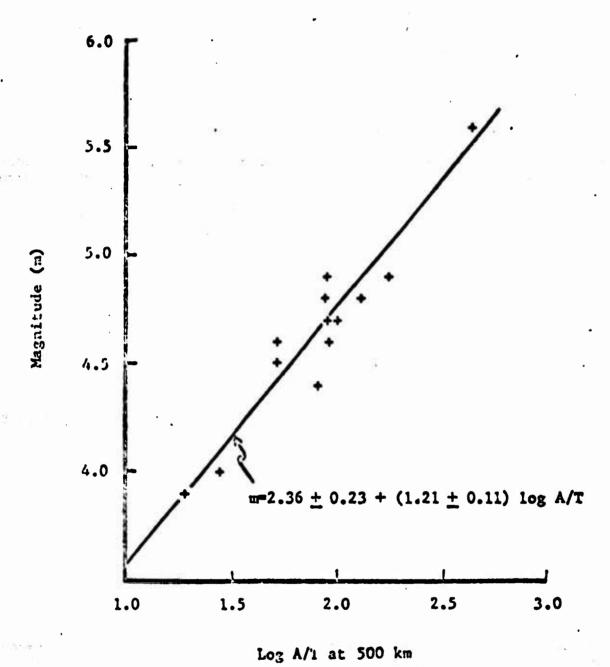












Magnitude from telescismic stations (dist.  $\geq 16^{\circ}$ ) versus logarithm of amplitude divided by period (A/T) at 500 km, based on nuclear explosions at

the Nevada Test Site and SHOAL (Fallon, Nevada).

Figure 102

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